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May 2013

Team is first at school to qualify Nease Winterguard finishes season as a finalist at world competition

By Martie Thompson



Photo by Barry Dirks.

Four months of rehearsing at between eight and 15 hours per week has paid off in a big way for the Nease High School World Class Winterguard. Following their first place finish at the FFCC Championship (Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit) held in Daytona Beach on April 7, the team traveled to Dayton, Ohio for the WGI (World Guard International) World Championships, where they earned

a coveted place in the finals, finishing in 12th place out of a total 22 teams in their class. This impressive feat was accomplished in their first year of competing in the Scholastic World class and Nease was the only new team in that classification to advance all the way to finals.

Their 2013 show, entitled *Divinere* "To Become" was conceived and choreographed by Jill Moser, Justin Sullivan, Lauren

O'Grady and Robby DuFresne.

"The show was inspired by the Margaret Thatcher quote 'What we think, we become'—an incredibly positive message that was empowering and motivating for the performers and a feel good show to audiences nationwide. It was designed to be more than just a competitive show. Our goal was to go out and change someone's day," Moser shared.

The show features dancing, flag features and sabre and rifle tosses, all set to a lilting piece of piano music. But don't let the graceful nuances of the dance fool you—Winterguard is truly the "sport of the arts," featuring powerful and graceful athlete dancers who are as comfortable tossing a rifle or sabre as performing a jete.

Moser was pleased that the student performers were very invested in their roles and understood what the show was about. The team is composed of 22 students, including five males and freshmen through seniors. The majority of the team performed

Nease Winterguard cont. on pg. 28

Transition program for rising sixth grade FCMS girls Passages registration open

By Contributing Writer Denise Lewis

Registration is officially open for the popular middle school summer program Passages (sponsored by Girl Scouts of Gateway Council). This program is a "must" for rising FCMS sixth grade girls to attend.

Transitioning from the familiar confines of elementary school to middle school is often stressful for adolescents. The comfortable surroundings, routines and staff members are gone, replaced by new and unfamiliar hallways, schedules and activities. But thanks to Passages, rising sixth grade girls at FCMS can look forward to their first day of middle school with anticipation and confidence instead of apprehension.

Passages is a two-day workshop which orientates incom-



Youth Leaders Madeline Lewis, Sydney Hale and Jessica Taylor rehearsing for "What Not To Wear" Fashion Show held during last year's Passages Program.

ing sixth grade girls to middle school. Through this program, the girls become familiar with every aspect of their new school and schedule, which, in turn, lessens their anxiety and increases confidence in their new routine.

Girls who have participated in the program have come away with high praise for it.

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Veterans' nursing home celebrates volunteers with garden party

By Karl Kennell

On the sunny and bright afternoon of April 25, the residents of Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home made their way from their rooms to the octagonal courtyard. They were gathering for a special volunteer appreciation garden party. This garden party was extra special because it was being thrown and hosted by the residents for the many individual volunteers and organizations that come to visit them throughout the year. Surrounding the courtyard the residents heard from volunteers and other speakers how much they enjoyed helping out and befriending the residents.

Representatives from the



St. Augustine Songwriters Association were on hand to provide music. Don Rust, association member and owner of O'Malley's Irish Pub, is one of the most faithful volunteers, helping make these veterans find music in their later years. He visits every Wednesday to

perform for the residents and encourages other performers to share their talents with the veteran residents. He spearheaded a fundraising drive to purchase a sound system for the nursing home. The sound system was presented to the facility the day of the garden party and is now available for all the entertainers so they will no longer need to drag their own sound system around the nursing home.

Wandering and weaving through the residents, families and friends who were enjoying the music and fun were several of the students from Andi

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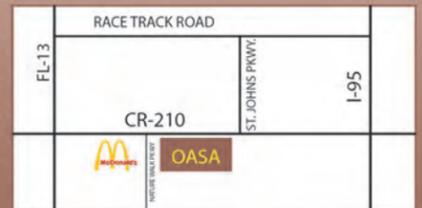
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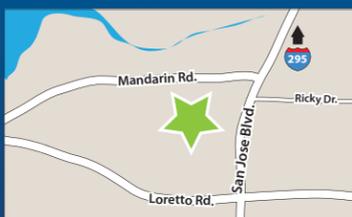


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What's New

Community Happenings

Do you have community or club news you would like included in The CreekLine? Then contact Martie Thompson at: editor@rtpublishinginc.com or 886-4919.

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On Saturday, May 18 the **Golden Panther Booster Club** will launch its largest fundraiser in a number of years, the GPBC Garage Sale. There are over 500 student athletes and their families donating both merchandise and volunteer hours to raise funds for Nease athletics. Leading this effort are athletic director, Ted Barbato and Golden Panther Booster Club president, Greg England. All unsold merchandise will be donated to the Betty Griffin House, one of the signature service projects of the International Baccalaureate Program at Nease High School. The sale will begin promptly at 7:00 a.m. and run until 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$1 per adult. Items for sale include furniture, exercise equipment, clothes, linens, small electronics and a whole lot more. Come early for the best bargains and support

local student athletes!

The **Creekside High School varsity cheerleaders** will hold their annual camp from June 24 through June 27 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Girls enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade during the 2013-2014 school year are eligible to attend. The cost of the camp is \$90 and limited to the first 80 girls who register. The registration deadline is June 1 and a registration brochure with specific information is available online at www-cshs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/ or contact Jamie Godfrey for more information at godfrey@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

The **St. Johns Federated Republican Women** invite you to join them the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Davidson Realty in World Golf Village. Men are always welcome. Our next meeting is May 20, 2013. Dr. Stephen Baker, director of the Jacksonville University Political Science Department and John Libby, owner of American Public Dialogue, a polling firm, will give us a detailed analysis and breakdown of the 2012 election. The question and answer session promises to be interesting as well. For more information, please contact Debbie Newton at 910- 0290 or email sjfedrepublicanwomen@gmail.com.

Letters to the Editor policy

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Applications are being accepted for the **2013 St. Johns County Master Gardener class**. The Master Gardener program recruits volunteers for horticultural activities of the Extension Service. In exchange for 50 hours of intensive horticultural education provided by the University of Florida, the volunteer commits to donating 75 hours of volunteer time to Extension Service projects. Examples of volunteer projects are arboretum care, demonstration vegetable garden, phone desk, plant clinics and educational outreach, to name a few. If you are interested in the program, please call

209-0430 for application forms. The deadline for applications is June 28, 2013.

The **Marine Corps League, Ancient City Detachment 383**, meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1900 hours at the St. Augustine Elks Lodge 829, located at 1420 State Road A1A South in St. Augustine. For additional information, please visit mclfl383.org.

Ancient City Chapter of the Florida Writer's Association will meet on Saturday May 18 at the

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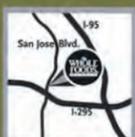
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From the Commissioner's Desk

By Contributing Writer Ron Sanchez,
County Commissioner, District 2

You may not realize that manufacturing is a very important part of the First Coast as it is in the entire state of Florida. Florida ranks 44th among the states in terms of the percentage of the state's workforce employed in manufacturing at 4.3 percent and 47th in its percentage of Gross State Product attributable to manufacturing at 5 percent. But, Florida ranks first in manufactured exports as a percentage of the state's total exports at around 85 to 90 percent of all the state's \$66.4 billion in exports.

Manufacturing has the biggest economic "multiplier" effect of all industries in Florida, meaning more economic activity is gained for investments in manufacturing than in any other industry. Each dollar invested in manufactured goods creates another \$1.43 of activity in other sectors.

The local First Coast Manufacturers Association is a great group of dedicated people that work real hard to maintain and increase the activity in North East Florida. The FCMA is an association created to represent the views of manufacturing, logistics and related companies. Its objectives are: Protecting the Environment, Educating the Workforce and Improving the Economy.

Their goal is to improve public acceptance that will allow

the expansion of manufacturing and logistics companies on Florida's First Coast. They will hold the largest and most exciting event in the association's history from October 2 through 4, 2013 at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine.

The event will provide the association an opportunity to highlight manufacturing in the region, offer serious discussions on critical manufacturing issues and create a unique environment for networking for manufacturing and partner members. Should you want more information about FCMA, please call 296-9664.

JAXPORT plays a key role in the growth of Northeast Florida. At this time the Panama Canal is being widened to accommodate the gigantic ships that are being engineered specifically to flow in and out of the widened Panama Canal. This is scheduled to be complete in 2014. Officials project as many as thousands of new jobs lie in the balance if Jacksonville becomes the primary United States southeast port of call for these larger vessels. JAXPORT is competing against Charleston, South Carolina and Savannah, Georgia for the lucrative larger fleet.

In Florida, 17,746 manufacturers employ over 340,000 skilled workers. Manufacturing creates six times the economic impact of agriculture. On the lo-

cal level manufacturing accounts for 15 percent of the total gross regional product. It accounts for 20 percent of the area capital investment. Manufacturers pay 25 percent of the Tangible Personal Property Tax and 50 percent of FCMA manufacturing members are involved in imports and exports.

Manufacturing in NE Florida accounts for 5 percent of area workforce. The average salary in manufacturing is 135 percent higher than other sectors. For each manufacturing job, 2.5 other jobs are created indirectly. Those jobs include support for the Port and Logistics Industry. FCMA promotes workforce skills through summer manufacturing/chemical camps for eighth graders, supporting manufacturing/engineering academies in area high schools, offering engineering scholarships at UNF, working with area trade schools and utilizing retired military personnel.

The environment is of major concern to the FCMA. They lead in developing systems for recycling and improvement of air and water quality. Area manufacturers have either met or exceeded EPA regulations.

Manufacturing is valuable to our economy with direct and indirect jobs. Manufacturers are working hard and investing in protecting our environment. Support for manufacturing is support for your economy.



VyStar Credit Union celebrated the Grand Opening of their new Baymeadows and 295 East Branch with a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 8, 2013.

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The Sheriff Reports

By Contributing Writer David B. Shoar, St. Johns County Sheriff

Proms, parties and alcohol

We are fortunate in St. Johns County to have a wonderful population of young people. You often read of their many accomplishments in this publication. As we approach prom season and graduation I urge parents and all citizens to join with the law enforcement community to do everything we can to help keep our celebrating students safe.

One major concern is underage alcohol use and abuse. In recent years we have seen some promising young people from our high schools killed in crashes where alcohol consumed at parties was a contributing factor. The 2012 Florida Youth Substance Abuse survey of St. Johns County found 63 percent of high school students had used alcohol in their lifetime. More than 36.9 percent had consumed alcohol in the past month of the survey and 18.3 percent reported binge drinking (five or more drinks for males and four or more drinks for females for the sole purpose of getting drunk) in the past 30 days. The numbers for our middle school students in the survey is as follows: 26.2 percent have used alcohol in their lifetime. More than 10 percent had consumed alcohol in the past month of the survey and 3.6 percent reported binge drinking in the prior 30 days of the survey. All of the numbers are significantly lower than the survey taken 10 years ago. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the leading cause of death for 15 to 20 year olds is a car crash and 23 percent of teen drivers in fatal crashes had a blood alcohol

content in excess of .08, the legal limit for drunk driving.

Another federal study found that of the nearly 70 percent of high school students who have consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, 49 percent purchased it illegally, 30 percent got it from an unrelated person of drinking age and 21 percent were provided alcohol by their parents or another adult family member. In an effort to reduce these alarming numbers we have joined with the St. Johns County School Board and the PACT Coalition (Prevent-Act-Change-Together) to create "The Party's Over" educational awareness and enforcement campaign.

We all should be concerned about the potential risky behavior of young people associated with proms, graduation parties and school year end celebrations. Here are seven suggestions for parents to help ensure that their sons and daughters arrive home safely after attending such events.

1. Have a very specific conversation with your teen about alcohol consumption, driving under the influence and resisting peer pressure that often leads to poor judgment before, during and after proms and parties.
2. Find out who will be driving, their address and phone number and a list of names and phone numbers for each teen passenger.
3. Get a planned itinerary and stress that no changes to it be made without approval.
4. Talk with your teen specifically about how he or she will handle difficult situations

such as being offered alcohol or drugs or turning down a ride with an intoxicated driver.

5. Make sure your teen has a cell phone or some other means of contacting you throughout the entire evening and perhaps even set up specific check in times.

6. Program the number of a reliable cab company into their cell phone. They may more comfortable calling for a cab in front of their peers than calling home for a ride.

7. Lastly, monitor your student's social media sites—their friends or contacts, evening plans, etc.

It is my hope that our high school juniors and seniors in St. Johns County will use good judgment and safely enjoy their proms and graduation parties. We at the sheriff's office will do all we can to make sure the roadways they travel are safe.

I hope this information assists you and your family and please pass it onto friends and relatives in an effort to combat underage drinking. You can get additional information from the P.A.C.T. Prevention Coalition of St. Johns County at www.pact-prevention.org. Of course please feel free to contact me anytime at my email address at dshoar@sjsco.org. Thank you.

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What's New cont. from pg. 3

Main Library in St. Augustine to tackle goals, motivation and conflict. What do you need to know to sustain a book-length work of fiction? This workshop will help you understand and use goals, motivation and conflict to make your stories stronger, focused and motivated. This program is presented in partnership with the Friends of the Main Library and the Ancient City Chapter/FWA. Meetings are free and open to the public. The Main Library is located at in St. Augustine, at US Highway 1 and San Carlos.

Adults and teens age 14 and older are invited to attend the **Project Lap Blanket** crochet group at the Bartram Trail Branch Library on Monday, May 13 Tuesday, May 21 and Thursday, May 30 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The group will crochet or knit blankets for cancer patients at area hospitals. All skill levels are welcome. Can't come to any of the meetings? Pick up the crochet pattern at the Reference Desk in the library and crochet the blanket in your spare time. Drop off completed blankets and any yarn you'd like to donate during regular library hours. For additional information, please call the Reference Desk at 827-6960.

The Garden Club of Switzerland held its spring luncheon and installation of officers on May 9, 2013. The meeting, held at Bailey's Needmore Ranch, was the final one until September 12. New officers who were installed include Michelle Fraser, president; Donna Keathley, vice president; Carolyn Mullinax, treasurer; Claire Fioriti, recording secretary; and Margaret Williams, corresponding secretary. The Garden Club is so proud of Beverly Fleming, a member of our club, who is retiring this month as Naturalist for St Johns County. Beverly received a wonderful tribute on April 22 from the staff and students of Julington Creek Elementary School, who are planting trees in her honor by the flag pole. Beverly has been a

faithful friend of the school and founder of the Junior Gardener Club where she brought a love and understanding of nature for the past 25 years. Congratulations Beverly!

The **MOMS Club St. Augustine-North** is a wonderful way to meet other stay-at-home and part-time working mothers and is a fun way for your children to socialize with other children. Mothers with children of all ages are welcome. Members for this chapter must live in the 32092 or 32095 zip codes, including all neighborhoods along the 210 corridor. We meet once a month to plan our activities for the month ahead. These business meetings are held at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at Faith Community Church on County Road 210. Of course, children are welcome at all of our meetings and activities. If you have any questions or would like to get more information to join, please email Sarah at sanmoms@gmail.com, check out our website at <http://sanmomsclub.weebly.com> or drop into our business meeting.

The **St. Johns County Master Gardeners** will be on hand to answer your lawn and garden questions at the Bartram Trail Library, located at 60 Davis Pond Road at the entrance to Julington Creek Plantation. The clinics are scheduled for Thursday, May 16 and Saturday, May 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. You can bring in a soil sample for free pH testing. Instructions on taking a soil sample can be found on the internet.

Riding Into History, one of America's premier vintage motorcycle events, will return to the beautiful World Golf Village near St. Augustine on May 17-18, 2013. The weekend will feature the Concours d'Elegance on Saturday, with a charity ride to the event leaving from Adamec Harley-Davidson Baymeadows and BMW Mo-

What's New cont. on pg. 6

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School District Journal

By Contributing Writer Beverly Slough, St. Johns County School Board

April 10 was an exciting and gratifying day for St. Johns County Schools. We just completed our five year accreditation review. AdvancEd, an international accreditation group, visited the district for three days, meeting with people from all over the district, from the superintendent and School Board to children. They also visited and did a careful review of several of our schools. The group evaluates 35 powerful practices when they review a district. Districts usually get the highest rating on about three of these measures. Our district achieved a perfect score on ten of them. It was exceptionally gratifying to hear our district described as a jewel by the leader of the team. Congratulations to teachers, students, administrators, parents and the community at large for helping us achieve continued accreditation.

Site preparation is well underway for our two new K-8 schools. With all the schools that have been built since I was first elected to the School Board, this is the first time that a new one has been on my daily travel path. It is a pleasure to watch the progress on HH, as it is called until it is given a name next fall. I am already receiving emails asking about the zoning for the new schools.

In addition, the rumor mill

is very active. Please know that nothing has been done in the development of the zoning plan for either of the new schools. We will begin the process in the fall, after school is in session for 2013-14. There will be ample opportunity for public input surrounding the zoning process. Any information being shared at present (even by developers or builders) has no basis and should be disregarded. Also in the fall, principals will be identified for the schools. They will begin to work with parents of students zoned to the school to give suggestions for names, mascots and all the other cultural items that surround new schools. I look forward to working with the community as we begin new traditions at our new schools.

Graduation is rapidly approaching. Schools are scheduling senior celebrations, academic awards programs, baccalaureate and all the other things that surround high school graduation. The graduation schedule is as follows: Pedro Menendez High School – Thursday, May 30, 7:00 p.m., St. Augustine Amphitheatre; Ponte Vedra High School – Friday, May 31, 7:00 p.m., UNF Arena; Nease High School – Saturday, June 1, 9:00 a.m., UNF Arena; Creekside High School – Saturday, June 1, 12:00 noon;

UNF Arena, Bartram Trail High School – Saturday, June 1, 4:00 p.m., UNF Arena; St. Augustine High School – Saturday, June 1, 7:00 p.m., UNF Arena; St. Johns Technical High School – Thursday, June 6, 7:00 p.m., St. Augustine High School auditorium. Congratulations to all our graduates. We are so proud of your accomplishment and wish you the very best in whatever your next steps are.

Nease's SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) Club has been working very hard to fight tobacco and electronic cigarette use by students. They have posted a petition on www.whitehouse.gov asking for the government to set a federal minimum age of 18 for purchase and possession of electronic cigarettes. I am including the link in hopes that many of you will support our students by signing the petition. These young people are to be commended for working to make a difference in our world. <https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/set-federal-minimum-age-restriction-purchase-possession-electronic-cigarettes-18-years-old/NsFNgG3v>

Thank you, as always, for your interest in and support of public education. If I may assist you in any way, please contact me at sloughb@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

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E Pluribus Unum: Civics for one and all

By James A. Lee, M.Ed., Ed.D. ABD, Peer Teacher Evaluator, St. Johns County School District

Consider the following historic and contemporary geopolitical circumstances and see if you recognize their commonalities: Catholics in Northern Ireland; Quebecois in Canada, Palestinians in Israel, Jews in Palestine and Afrikaners in South Africa—among many other possible examples. As you probably inferred, all are ethnic groups (some minorities, some not) involved in civil conflict. Also, all of these conflicts occurred under democratic regimes, with the provisional exception of Palestine, a Mandate of the British (democratic) government. As I explained in earlier articles, I suggested that we use R. Freeman Butts' "Twelve Tables of Civism" as the foundational principles for our discussion of civics issues in our community. Last month I discussed his first two principles, justice and freedom. Remember also that Butts structured these principles as countervailing ideas under two headings. Unum lists principles necessary for promoting the general social welfare. Pluribus lists principles necessary for protecting the blessings of individual liberty.

This month we examine the principles equality (unum) and diversity (pluribus). As we see from the list of ethnic groups above, civil conflict among democratic peoples is not rare. In fact, diversity itself fosters much of the world's civil conflict. However, diversity is a positive attribute to society. Without it, technology, art and other valuable social assets would be stagnated. Consider Americans in the early English colonies. Without the assistance of the Indians, early settlers would surely have perished. The importation of enslaved Africans, their under-

standing of tropical agriculture and, of course, their labor, made possible the development of the colonies' first major cash crops, tobacco, rice and cotton. Even among the English, extreme diversity existed in religion, class, education and heritage. But we know all too well the serious conflicts that arose as a result of these diversities. Our differences foster prosperity, progress and inspiration while also creating division, hatred and violence.

Butts' countervailing principle to diversity is equality. He asks whether our democratic ambition of equality means that all individuals are equal or that all are to be treated equally. Of course we can wish that all were equal. But obvious inequalities exist in strengths, skills, talents and aptitudes. So we must, then, assume that all are to be treated as equal. We have institutionalized unequal treatment of people that most of us, if not all, would agree are necessary. Just consider the limited rights of minors, criminals and non-citizens. More problematic, though, is our historical unequal treatment of people based on ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. But even in our best efforts to right those wrongs, we still struggle with such issues as immigration, homosexual rights, rich versus poor and many other equality issues.

So, let's end as we began. Consider the following local circumstances: the need for wider roads versus property rights, land and water usage versus conservation, charter schools versus public schools; and LGBT equality rights. In each of these and other issues, the interests of the individual and the public are in direct conflict.

Friends, civic conflict is inevitable. Civility is imperative.

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What's New cont. from pg. 5

torcycles of Jacksonville. The grand marshal's historic lunch ride to St. Augustine, led by Buzz Kanter and Dale Walksler and the grand marshal's dinner at the Legends Grill in the WGV, will be held on Friday. Sargent Cycle Products presents the event. All of the proceeds from Riding Into History benefit the Jacksonville-based Wounded Warrior Project. So far, Riding Into History has raised \$300,000 for charity. For more information and to sign up online, please visit RidingIntoHistory.org.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-7 meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine Yacht Club near

the St. Augustine Lighthouse. The flotilla is always looking for new members, particularly those who own aircraft, boats and have radio equipment and skills. If you are interested, please contact Vic Aquino at 460-0243.

The Northeast Florida Quit Smoking Now (QSN) Program offers free tobacco cessation classes! The classes meet once a week for six consecutive weeks and provide a free workbook as well as free nicotine replacement therapies (patch, lozenge and gum) to assist tobacco users in their quit attempt. Please call us today at 482-0189 to register for one of our upcoming "Quit Smoking Now" classes in St. Johns County. You will be glad you did!

St. Augustine Maritime Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded to educate and promote St. Augustine's rich maritime history. Join us on Saturday, June 8 at the beautiful and historic Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park for the first annual Family Fun Day from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.! This event is free to St Johns County residents and activities will include model boat building and races, youth sailing rigging, many demonstration, fun exhibits, knot tying and tug 'o war contest, storytelling, prizes, cannon firing, food and much more. Come see the progress made by The Maritime Heritage Foundation's boat builders who are building a replica of a 16th century boat used by the first sailors who came to St Augustine. Please visit our website at www.staugmaritimeheritage.com for more information, contact Wendy Thomson at 687-4625 or wendysails55@gmail.com.



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JCE Junior Gardeners Club honors special homegrown naturalist

By Karl Kennell



It was a rainy morning for the Earth Day celebration on April 22 at Julington Creek Elementary. With a quick change of plans the ceremony was moved into the cafeteria where, after all the children quietly came in, there was standing room only. This was not just any assembly. It was a special surprise event to honor a special volunteer at the school.

Expecting that the ceremony was going to be about a little tree that she brought for planting on Earth Day, Beverly Fleming or Ms. Beverly as the kids say, joined Principal Michael Story and school board member Beverly Slough on stage. Principal Story introduced her and Slough to the assembled children. He then began outlining Ms. Beverly's many contributions over the last 25 years to building an appreciation of nature of the children of Julington Creek Elementary School.

Fleming has achieved many goals with the school since she

Switzerland, she used her position to act as a liaison between the kids and the club. Highlights of her service for the school include helping the kindergarten children plant wildflower gardens many of the years; helping beautify the school over the years by planting shrubs, bushes and trees; bringing in speakers ranging from butterfly specialists to native Americans; helping the children learn about conservation and recycling; and promoting events at Alpine Groves and Trout Creek Parks.

These were just the beginning. She also turned becoming involved with nature into fun for the kids. Along with the nature program she presents once a month to all of the JCE Junior Gardeners, she has built a teepee with green bean vines large enough for several children to actually go inside at the same time, celebrated JCE's 25th birthday with a colorful butterfly release, helped the kindergarten children plant vegetable

seeds and plants, which were harvested to make their own vegetable soup and of course the most anticipated activity for the kids over the years—when she brought various animals for sharing, with the favorite being "Howie the Owl."

School board member Slough said of Fleming, "She loves plants, animals, nature, people and especially the little people of this school."

The children were entertained by all of the kindergarten classes, who sang a song of appreciation set to a French children's tune. Kyle Arnold's and Sherry Dawson's third-grade classes sang "This Land is Your Land." It was accompanied by Arnold on guitar and the audience singing along and clapping.

Once Principal Story made the presentation of two palm tree pillow sculptures and a book of memories to Fleming and when the rain eased up, she was escorted to the flag pole where the kids had planted three palm trees along with a plaque honoring her as the founder of the JCE Junior Garden Club. To finish off the celebration, Fleming enjoyed cake with the kindergarten classes. When she was saying her goodbyes, she treated all 160 kids to a butterfly release of 75 Painted Lady butterflies outside on the school grounds.

Ms. Beverly truly lives the life of a naturalist and is an inspiration to generations of kids from Julington Creek Elementary School.

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Volunteers needed at the Council on Aging

By Contributing Writer Susan Johnson, Council on Aging

Meals On Wheels: Volunteers are urgently needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to homebound seniors in the St. Augustine area any morning Monday through Friday.

Care Connection: Volunteers are needed in the Minor Repair Program. Change a light bulb, fix a leak, hang a curtain, install a tub safety bar or even build a hand rail or repair a stair. No roof work – simple jobs only. Training is available if required.

All material needed is provided. Work on your own schedule.

Memory Enhancement Class: Volunteers are needed in COA's Memory Enhancement program to assist with class activities, monitor participants and assist with lunch set-up on Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon or 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

To volunteer or for more information- please call Ginny Draper at 904-209-3686 or e-mail gdraper@stjohnscoa.com.

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Nease Happenings

"Tollers" continue to leave their mark on Nease

By Samuel Wright, Nease Student



Nease high school hosted its annual Battle of the Bands competition in April. True to its name, the event is an opportunity for student bands to "battle" it out on stage in front of their peers and the band that is adjudged to have the won is granted with studio recording time. This year's lineup included bands that represented multiple genres and styles, from the heavy metal of "Solution" to the unique reggae of "Born of the Sea." These student bands provided for an entertaining night of racing rhythms and mellow melodies. One band in particular, however, marked its territory within Nease High School's auditorium for the second time this year. The name? "Tollers."

Tollers as a band has been together for a little more than two years. This year, Tollers is better than ever. Ever since Nease's annual talent show hosted a few months ago, "Tollers" has been the word dancing on the lips of NHS's music lovers. In that talent show, Tollers placed first among a variety of acts for their unique musical sound and cultivated chemistry. Since then, music-loving students at Nease had been waiting to hear them perform again and were given that opportunity at

Nease's Battle of the Bands. Although Tollers didn't place first, their harmonic performances were most certainly a highlight of the night.

"We make music, of course. We don't typically prefer the term 'indie rock' but that's basically what it is; that's just the term that most people can understand," said Landon Tice, a guitarist who has been a part of the band since its origins. "My brother actually came up with the genre 'quilt rock' because, like a quilt, we just stitch everything together. We find ourselves difficult to describe because we have so many different elements to our songs, but that's who we are."

The band lined up April 12 with six members: Landon, a guitarist; his brother Skye, who took charge of the keyboard as well as main vocals; Lily Dove, who played the vibraphone; Tucker Felts, at the base guitar; Tyler Goldsmith on the drums and finally Ellis Ward-Collings, who added the unique sounds of the trumpet.

The band has a unique identity, one that certainly brought strong variety to the Battle of the Bands at Nease. This distinguished identity is reflected in the experiences of the band members themselves, as they bond as friends while making original music.

The band's identity continues to develop into one of unique music and character that will catch on with fans everywhere. Tice described his favorite part of being in the band, saying, "Obviously the music is the general answer. But it's a great rush, performing, it lets you show what you've been practicing. Being able to play shows and showcases what you've worked on and letting people hear it is awesome. I love getting reactions from people and hearing what they have to say. It means so much to me to hear other people's reactions and just having people recognize us."

"We were playing in the band room, just me and Tyler in the morning and the bell rang so we had to go to class. We were walking in the hallway and there was a girl behind me humming one of our songs, something she had never heard before that morning. It made me so happy. Stuff like that, making fans happy and getting recognition, is probably the best part."

Tollers, however, aren't the only ones who have the ability to make Nease's student body hum along. With the Battle of the Bands occurring annually, it is a great chance for students to showcase their talent as bands and compete for recording hours that can lead to big things.

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William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway update

By Contributing Writer Al Abbatiello, alabbat@bellsouth.net

April is/was an eventful month with news galore related to our Scenic Highway. There's good news and not so good news – read on.

A St. Johns County Planning Manager from the Development Review Division made a brief presentation to the William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway management council with the fact the county is reviewing its county sign ordinance with the possibility of permitting temporary signage for businesses on the Scenic Highway.

We are concerned about the definition of “temporary” and who will monitor compliance, design, placement etc. County sign enforcement is complaint-driven; therefore, without a complaint, there is no enforcement. This county “plan” is still in its early stages and you can be sure the Board of County Commissioners will be hearing from us and concerns about changes in the county’s sign ordinance.

In keeping with our mission

of keeping the Scenic Highway beautiful we will oppose changes to an ordinance that potentially changes the county sign policy to the detriment of the scenic highway and cannot be properly enforced. More to come on this subject.

Since my last update the ninth annual Bartram Bash was canceled due to extremely bad weather and the event will not be rescheduled. A trivia question for all – if we didn't have a Bartram Bash in 2013 will next year's Bash be the ninth annual or 10th annual?

Planning for our Antique Appraisal Fair for May 11 is moving ahead nicely and we expect a great event. In case you missed last month's column, RiverTown Management and the St. Joe Company have agreed to let the William Bartram Scenic Highway use their amenity center for our non-profit, fundraising event.

At our next meeting on May 9 a developer and their attorney will be making a presentation of their proposed change of an

already approved residential development (PRD) of 28 home sites to a much higher density PUD. The proposed development is immediately south of RiverTown. A representative of D.R. Horton and their attorney will be making the presentation. Everyone, member or not, is invited to attend our monthly meetings at the St. Johns County Annex at 725 Flora Branch Blvd starting at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you.

The William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway Management Council did not oppose the original low density development of 28 homes, but expanding to 196 home sites is likely to be a different matter. Watch for an update in the June issue of The CreekLine.

There's more to come from this progressive group of doers and we welcome your participation. Come join us by becoming an active member in the Scenic Highway Management Council. Membership applications were received from residents of Ohio and Hawaii who spend a few

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

These details were omitted from last month's article in *The CreekLine* regarding the town hall meeting MasterCraft held for their proposed rezoning of The Parkes entrance in JCP to build an office plaza.

MasterCraft attended a JCP POA meeting and stated to property owners if their rezoning request is blocked, they could erect a barn, flag pole and park RVs underneath. They stated residential homes would not be subject to property standards of the POA, giving the impression of being poorly maintained.

Traffic concerns stem from proposed 54 parking spots, which indicate a lot of traffic. The county said their proposal of this amount seems high. This congested and accident-prone intersection, serves 520 elementary, middle and high school students twice a day, plus Mills Field. This intersection is not designed for such a high amount of commercial traffic, hence cur-

rent residential zoning.

Residents fear the repercussions of the rezoning if approved. We do not want the entrance to our neighborhood to become the future location of a pawnshop, adult store, etc., when MasterCraft outgrows their office space and/or sells the building.

If MasterCraft is successful in their rezoning attempts, it sets a horrifying precedent for the rest of the county. We need St. Johns residents who are concerned about the potential of commercial zoning affecting residential neighborhoods to contact all the County Commissioners and the Planning and Zoning Board immediately and email cc4theparkes@gmail.com, for future updates.

Sincerely,
Nicole Andrews
Randy Fuhr
Kevin Glover
Jeanie Prete
Karl Rogers

Julington Creek Plantation CDD report

By Contributing Writer Pat Jacob, Supervisor, Julington Creek Plantation Community Development District

There are varied opinions on how operations at our CDD should be carried out. No matter what is decided, there will be those who disagree. The best thing we can do is try to get a clear understanding of facts and the “big picture.” Please consider the following.

CDD Expenses: I have seen statements/graphs comparing CDD expenses/salaries from 2006 with the present. Prior to the Rec. Center opening in 2008, only the Aquatic Complex was operating. Obviously, adding the center (with fitness, tennis, swimming, café, skate park and support staff) brought expected cost increases. Comparing figures from pre-opening with the present is misleading.

Tennis director compensation: To simply state, as I have repeatedly seen, that the tennis director is paid 50 percent over the national average is disingenuous as it excludes other pertinent factors. The JCP Commission Compensation Operational Audit (December 2012) found that his total compensation did, indeed, exceed the top total paid nationally; however, this audit also found his CDD base salary (the amount paid to him from our CDD assessments), is well below the national and local medians. Commissions are earned through industry standard calculations based on revenue produced by the programs (of which CDD receives a portion). Programs he implemented and administers have done so well that commissions are significant. If the programs were not flourishing, the CDD's portion would be less.

Heating of aquatic complex competition pool: It is sensible to fully utilize CDD resources in a cost-effective manner instead of having this pool sit unused for a large portion of the year. It is anticipated that

operating costs will be offset or surpassed by revenue to the benefit of the CDD and residents.

Fee-based programs: Keep in mind that some fee-based Rec. Center offerings are interconnected. For example, residents using Childwatch are patronizing other programs which generate additional revenue. If Childwatch were not available at a reasonable cost, how much revenue would be lost?

Outside management company: I do not support the notion that the CDD should again hire a management company. The CDD took control of operations in 2006 for very good reasons that are still valid. Our new general manager has extensive professional experience and has realized significant cost savings in a short period. Consistently looking for ways to lower costs is a priority and I am confident he will continue to reduce expenses where possible while managing operations and staff in a sound manner.

Bottom line, JCP is a great value and the CDD is financially healthy. Our amenities are far superior and our assessments, already lower than comparable neighborhoods, were recently decreased 8.5 percent. This combination serves to protect property values for

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all homeowners (regardless of whether they choose to participate in offered activities). It is truly wonderful to see these superb facilities enjoyed daily by so many of our residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the board of supervisors and feel free to contact me to share any concerns or what you are pleased with regarding our CDD.

This article is my opinion and in no way constitutes nor implies District opinion, endorsement, sponsorship or viewpoint. The views expressed may or may not be shared by the other JCP CDD Supervisors.

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Credit union's board of directors announces election results and executive committee

Following its 61st annual meeting on March 28, 2013, the VyStar Credit Union board of directors announced the following election results. Michael Cascone, Eric J. Hatfield and William C. Vivian have been elected to three year terms on the VyStar Credit Union board of directors. In addition, Brian J. Roche was appointed to the board to fulfill the remaining term of Esther Schultz who

retired after serving 32 years on the VyStar board of directors and was named Director Emeritus. The executive committee of the board was selected as follows: chairman, George R Berry; vice chairman, P.E. (Ted) Hewitt; treasurer, P. Kem Siddons and secretary, Michael Cascone.

VyStar's board of directors appointed Victor Blackshear to the five-member audit committee to replace Alfred C. Seablom

who retired after 40 years of service and Stephen Smith to replace Brian Roche.

VyStar Credit Union's nine-person volunteer board of directors provides strategic direction and policy setting and oversees the management of the credit union for its members.

Dealership awarded Elite 2012 Customer First Club award

While it's easy and common for dealerships and businesses to toot their own horn these days, it's rare and more genuine when a dealership receives the recognition and praised validated by its customers.

O'Steen Volkswagen has joined the ranks for Volkswagen dealers excelling in all customer service standards, noted as an industry leader in customer satisfaction. This coveted recognition has been awarded to only 24 Volkswagen dealers out of 617 in the country. Members of the elite Customer First Club are selected by Volkswagen customers through a Customer Experience Survey. According to the feedback from customers, the 24 dealers excelled in all aspects of the customer experience, including new car, pre-owned and service.

"It is such an honor to receive the 2012 Customer First Club Award," states Tom O'Steen, co-owner. "Our customer's voices determine the winners of this award and we are honored that our custom-

ers appreciate the high level of service we provide at O'Steen Volkswagen. We applaud our employees for being dedicated to delivering industry-leading customer service and recognize that this award means 100 percent dedication by all members of our team."

To honor the employees and their families of O'Steen Volkswagen for their hard work, an employee appreciation picnic was held on Sunday, May 5 at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

The O'Steen family has been a part of the Jacksonville community for three generations and in the automotive business since 1969. O'Steen Volkswagen is located at 11401 Phillips Highway and provides sales and service on new and pre-owned Volkswagen models, as well as all types of makes and models. Leasing, online inventory, financing, parts and accessories are also available.

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of *The CreekLine!*

Two giants from the Classical period of composition to be performed

The St. Augustine Community Chorus will participate in the Romanza Festival with their performance of compositions by Two Titans of Classicism. Featuring Haydn's *Te Deum* and Mozart's *Requiem*, the concert will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m. at the Ancient City Baptist Church, located at 27 Sevilla St. in St. Augustine. A chamber orchestra, featuring Shannon McKay, organist at the Cathedral Basilica and the Jacksonville Artists, has been formed by Community Chorus director and conductor, Dr. Theodore K. Mathews.

The dates of the Classical

Period of Composition in Western music are generally accepted as between 1750 and 1820. Joseph Haydn (1732 -1809) and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 -1791), two giants from this period, were the most prominent and prolific Classical composers and became friends, despite their difference in age.

The first known performance of Haydn's *Te Deum*, composed for Empress Marie Therese, the second wife of the Emperor Franz II, was presented at the Eisenstadt palace of the Esterhazys in Austria in September 1800.

Though Mozart's death in December 1791 preceded the

completion of his *Requiem*, Franz Xaver Süssmayr, Mozart's student, delivered a completed composition dated 1792 to Count Franz von Walsegg, who had anonymously commissioned the piece. Mozart's widow, Constanze, arranged for a public performance of the Requiem in order to confirm that this was Mozart's composition and to preclude Walsegg from claiming it as his own.

Tickets for the St. Augustine Community Concert Two Titans concert (Adults \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, Students \$5) are available online at: www.StAugustineCommunityChorus.org.



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Letter to the Editor

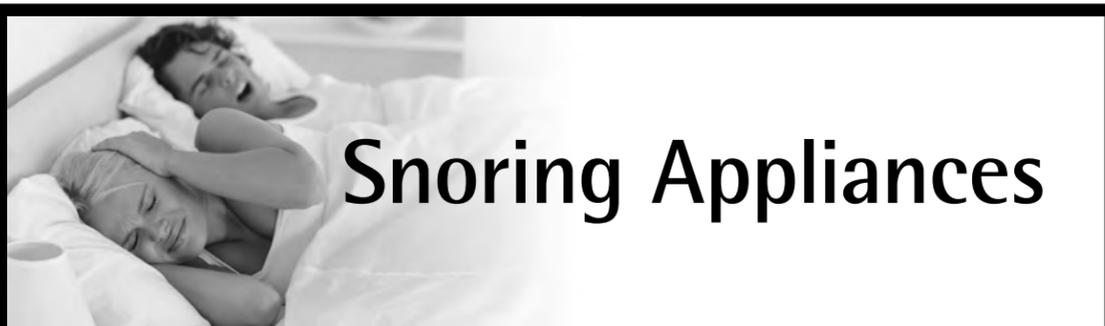
Dear Editor,

In the April issue of The CreekLine, JCPCDD Chairperson Nina Kannatt-Gapinski told readers, "I will continue to vote my conscience and do what I believe is in the best interest of the JCPCDD and the community." Kannatt-Gapinski neglected to give you the full picture of her vision of what she thinks is best for the JCPCDD.

She neglected to tell you three times she voted against including a nativity scene next to the menorah at the recreation center because it is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you she voted to heat a second pool (non-budgeted) that will benefit the Loggerhead swim team in which she and her family participate because it is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you she voted in favor of a \$15,000 non-budgeted

illegal bonus for the GM after five months of service because it is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you that when pressed at the March meeting to tie specific measurements to future bonus awards for the GM, she responded the GM should "try" to reduce expenses and stay within budget. "Try."

My version of what I believe is in the best interest of the CDD is for the board of supervisors to work toward establishing measurable goals and then reward staff based on performance. Our best interest is to reduce assessments by reducing the burden of subsidized user-paid programs and staffing inefficiencies while keeping the same level of service. I believe our best interest is for the board to consider all CDD tax payers. Is this voting record in your best interest?
Kelly Lorbeer



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Audition for one of the best youth orchestra programs



Photo by Steve Patrick.

South Campus. JSYO concerts are usually in November, March and May in Robert E. Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, with other special concerts throughout

Auditions for the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra (JSYO) will take place on May 28-31 and June 1-2, 2013 at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) South Campus. Auditions will be held in Building M2 near the West Parking lot in the large ensemble room on the first floor.

Visit www.jaxyouthorchestra.com/auditions/ to view the Audition Guidelines for 2013 including the guidelines for each JSYO ensemble. Ensembles include the Philharmonic, Repertory Orchestra, Premiere Strings, Encore Strings, Foundation Strings and Overture Strings. Musicians are placed into various ensembles based by talent and ability and not by age. Each ensemble rehearses once a week on either Sundays or Mondays.

For those who are accepted into the JSYO program, annual membership dues range from \$300 to \$475, depending on ensemble placement. Scholarship assistance is available, based on financial need. The season runs September through May at FSCJ

the season.

Founded in 1994, the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra (JSYO) enrolls more than 270 young musicians between the ages of seven and 21. Students are admitted through auditions and placed among six ensemble levels, plus chamber music, and presents four concerts each season. The JSYO has become one of the best and most comprehensive youth orchestra programs in the Southeast. As music programs are scaled back in public schools, the JSYO has filled this void by offering quality orchestral instruction, guided by a team of professional conductors and coaches led by Scott Gregg. The Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra (JSYO) is co-sponsored by Florida State College of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Symphony Association.

To apply for an audition with the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra, please visit www.jaxyouthorchestra.com and click on the Auditions tab to get started. For information, please call 354-5479, ext. 221.



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Help protect St. Johns County beaches as sea turtle nesting season begins

As the sea turtles return to nest on the beaches of St. Johns County, officials are asking residents, visitors and businesses to help protect the natural habitat by observing all nesting season laws and regulations. The official nesting season began on Wednesday, May 1.

Between May 1 and October 31, vehicular traffic on the beach is allowed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. In addition, all beachfront properties are required to maintain a healthy beach habitat by reducing the impact of their interior and exterior lights which may disrupt nesting sea turtles.

The measures are enacted to ensure compliance with the St. Johns County Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit, which protect five species of sea turtles and the native Anastasia Island Beach Mouse. St. Johns County is home to several species of endangered or threatened sea turtles that arrive every spring and summer to nest along the beaches.

In 2012, St. Johns County had 704 nests, including 691 loggerhead, 39 green and a record 14 leatherback nests along 41 miles of shoreline. County residents and visitors have a special opportunity and responsibility to protect these magnificent creatures and their vulnerable nests and feeding grounds. St. Johns County Beach Services and the Environmental Division encourage beach visitors to protect sea turtle nesting habitats while enjoying a diversity of activities from sunbathing and surfing to horseback riding and fishing. In addition to following the specified beach driving hours and lighting restrictions, residents and visitors are asked to observe the following regulations and reporting procedures while enjoying St. Johns County beaches:

- Use trash and recycling receptacles.
- Refrain from using fireworks and open fires.
- Remove ruts and fill in holes left by vehicles and sand castle building.
- Refrain from leaving chairs, umbrellas or canopies on the beach over night.
- Avoid entering sand dunes and conservation zones (15 feet seaward of the dune line).
- Refrain from using balloons for events, as they fall into the ocean and can harm marine life.
- Leave only your footprints, providing the turtles with a safe and clean habitat in which to nest.

- Avoid disturbing or handling sea turtles, their eggs or their nests.
- If an injured, sick or deceased sea turtle is encountered, please call the St. Johns Sheriff's Office non-emergency dispatch at 824-8304.

Endangered species are protected by county, state and federal laws which can impose fines up to \$20,000. St. Johns County thanks its residents and visitors for supporting habitat conservation efforts and keeping our beaches beautiful. For more information, please contact St. Johns County Habitat Conservation and Beach Management at 209-3740 or visit www.sjcf.us/hcp.

Hospital receives highest designation from Society

After an analysis of national data from all of 2012, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) awarded Memorial Hospital its highest possible rating of 3-Stars. To put that in perspective, this score is earned by only about 15 percent of all eligible hospitals.

STS has established a comprehensive rating system that compares the quality of heart surgery among hospitals across the county by using a combination of 11 measures of quality. Medical professionals widely regard the rating as the gold standard by which to evaluate heart surgery programs.

"The STS Database is the oldest and most established registry measuring quality in health-care," said Dr. Vasant Jayasankar of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgical Associates and the medical director of the Memorial Heart Center. "Patients needing heart surgery should ask their surgeon and the hospital if they

participate in the STS database and what their results are."

"The rating reflected in the STS data is the result of a team effort," said Bobby McCullough, Memorial Hospital's chief operating officer. "Everyone involved in patient care - the cardiovascular team in the OR, the intensive care unit and other nursing units, the cardiac catheterization lab, the Memorial medical staff, the blood bank - all are part of the team that provides quality outcomes."

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Helping Hands update

By Contributing Writer Jackie Valyou, Helping Hands

The members of Helping Hands had a special treat for the women at Betty Griffin House for Mother's Day. They presented a representative of Betty Griffin House with 50 purses that were filled with new cosmetics, jewelry, wallets, socks, hair and toiletry products. This has been a special project that the group has done for the last six years for the women in the shelter.

Helping Hands members will be busy filling Spash Pacs—beach bags for the children at the Salvation Army who go to swim camp this summer. They will meet on May 31, 2013 at

11:00 a.m. at Faith Community Church Community Center. The Rippers will meet at 10:00 a.m. The beach bags, which were made by the ladies in Helping Hands, will be filled with bathing suits, beach towels, sunscreen, flip flops and hats. Helping Hands is looking for donations of any new items listed for the children. Any size, color or gender items will work. The beach bags were made by the Rippers, who just finished a special project for the School of the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine. These talented ladies made over 100 fabric cane cases for the special folding canes used there.

Anyone is welcome at any meeting or at the extra day the Rippers help with sewing or craft projects. The Rippers' chairman can be contacted at gsusanb@hotmail.com.

For further information regarding Helping Hands, please contact jacqphil@aol.com. The group meets the last Friday of each month to do a small project for the community. There are no dues, officers or stress. The group relies solely on donations of goods and services from the community. Their motto is "We do what we can with what we have."

Foundation awards equipment to local first responders



Firehouse Subs co-founder Robin Sorensen, Waste Management CEO David Steiner, Joel Murray, Firehouse Subs co-founder Chris Sorensen, Clay County Fire Rescue Deputy Fire Chief David Motes, John Murray, Clay County Fair manager Pete Sutton, Clay County Fair director Johnny Smith, Clay County Fire Rescue Chief Lorin Mock, Edward Murray and Firehouse Subs partner Stephen Joost.

To kick off the 13th annual Murray Bros. Caddyshack Charity Golf Tournament, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation awarded equipment to Clay County Fire

Rescue and Green Cove Springs Police Department during a joint ceremony on Thursday, April 4, 2013. The presentation took place prior to The Pond Charity Golf Classic sponsored

by Waste Management at the River Bend Golf Links.

Chief Lorin Mock accepted the donation to Clay County Fire Rescue and was awarded an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) equipped with skid unit worth more than \$18,500. Chief Robert Musco while Green Cove Springs Police Department benefits with four Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) worth more than \$4,380. The ATV and skid unit will provide off-road capabilities for basic firefighting and the transportation of patients. The ATV will also be used at Clay County fair during large community events. The AEDs will allow every Green Cove Springs patrol shift to be outfitted to provide life-saving assistance in the event of cardiac arrest. Since 2005, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has donated more than \$1.2 million to public safety entities in Florida.



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Surgeon performs first robotic total knee replacement

A team at Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine, led by orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Tod Northrup of Florida Sports Medicine Institute, performed North Florida's first computer-navigated robotic total knee replacement. This technology offers a new surgical option for patients who require total knee replacement due to chronic knee pain as a result of osteoarthritis. This procedure allows for increased accuracy of implant placement, helps implants last longer and can reduce the patient's recovery time.

The key to the procedure is the system's ability to precisely replicate the surfaces of each individual patient's damaged knee joint within the computer software. This eliminates the need for preoperative CT or MRI scans. The surgeon is able to plan the size, position and orientation of the implant before making any bone cuts. Once the planning is complete, the robotic cutting guide is attached to the patient's knee and

used to guide the surgeon as he makes the bone cuts necessary to attach the knee replacement implant.

"This is the most dramatic development in joint surgery in the past 30 years," said Northrup. "For patients in constant pain who are no longer able to function well, this procedure is a game changer."

The Apex Robotic Technology Praxim robotic cutting guide is the only system of its kind currently available to perform total knee replacements. In addition, it does not require expensive preoperative CT scans or MRI like other robotic systems for partial knee replacement.

"Flagler Hospital has always embraced new technology in order to improve the lives of our patients," said CEO Joe Gordy. "Thanks to innovators like Dr. Northrup, we will continue to offer the very latest in technology for orthopedic surgery."

Passages cont. from pg. 1

Last year's participant Gracie R. said, "I would recommend Passages because it was fun and we got to travel around the school. I don't even know how I could deal with such a big transition without it. It covered every single question I could possibly think of, like combination locks, dress code, classes, boys and the changing out for P.E."

If you haven't signed up for Passages yet, there is still time. The two sessions are: August 5 and 6, 2013 and August 8 and 9, 2013. The cost is \$40.

For registration forms, please contact program facilitator Kerry Hale via email at 5hale@comcast.net.

To check for programs in other locations, please call the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council liaison Rita Stokes, at 388-4653 or check online at www.girlscouts-gateway.org. To inquire about a similar, one-day program for incoming boys, call Fruit Cove Middle School regarding "Journey" at 287-2211 or 547-7880. You can also check the FCMS website at www.fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us.



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Mill Creek Elementary celebrates FCAT arrival with new tradition

By Contributing Writer Wendi Brothers, Mill Creek Elementary

The arrival of FCAT testing was greeted with celebration at Mill Creek Elementary School! FCAT testing can be a time filled with anxiety and worry, but not at Mill Creek. The Friday before testing began the entire fifth grade held a “flash-mob” in the cafeteria. Dancing and singing about the arrival of FCAT testing entertained everyone during lunch.

Third, fourth and fifth may have been the only grades actually participating in the FCAT testing, but the entire school took part in the afternoon pep rally. All students, teachers and the majority of school staff came outside to celebrate the arrival of FCAT testing. The fifth grade entertained the younger students with

an encore performance of their “flash mob.” The third, fourth and fifth grade students took part in field day type games while the younger MCE Mustangs cheered them on. Teachers worked with their students throughout all of the speed and agility games. Classes worked together as a unit but then celebrated all as one Mustang family. The highlight of the afternoon was the tug-o-war between students and teachers. Although the teachers did win, the students put up a strong fight.

The “FCAT Arrival Celebration” will hopefully become a long standing tradition at Mill Creek Elementary—a tradition that truly sets Mill Creek apart as a school that celebrates the hard work of

the teachers and students and welcomes opportunity to show what they have learned.

Now that FCATs are completed and the school year is quickly approaching its end, volunteers are in great demand. Before the school takes on a summer siesta it will be bursting with fun and excitement. End of the year parties and activities will start to take up the schedule and with that more hands will be needed to organize the fun. Even if you have not volunteered yet – it is not too late to start! Ask a teacher or staff member where they could use some help and get started. Students have worked hard all year – and just like with the arrival of FCATs – It’s time to celebrate!



Dillon and Caleb take the front as Susan Jackson’s class battles the tug-o-war during the FCAT Celebration Games.



Teacher Carolyn Ramsay gets ready to hand off the hula-hoop to student Justice during the FCAT Celebration Games.

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Local woman draws attention to cause by running

By Donna Keathley

Angie Hiler, Durbin Crossing resident and mother of three, ran her first half-marathon on March 9 of this year. Her motivation was two generations of pancreatic cancer on her mother's side of her family. Hiler committed herself to running a half-marathon in memory of her mother, so she picked a race in Columbia, South Carolina, to start



Angie Hiler

what is now her passion—fundraising and running to benefit the Pancan Action Network out of California.

She and her sister, Laqueta, who lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, are both very passionate about doing something about this horrid disease. Pancreatic cancer has the lowest relative survival rate of any major cancer. It is the fourth leading cause of cancer death, with a five-year survival rate of just 6 percent. Hiler lost her mom to pancreatic cancer in February of 2012 and her grandmother passed away from the same disease at the age of 59.

"I was never a 'runner' per se," says Hiler. "I just felt like it was something I could strive for and achieve and raise

money for Pancan in the process. I guess you could say it is a 'bucket list' item with fundraising attached! I have raised around a \$1,000 to date."

Hiler, her sister and her oldest daughter, Hannah, are going to attend the Purplestride 5K Walk in Washington, D.C. on June 15 and stay over for a two-day meeting of the advocacy group.

Hiler is now on the planning committee for the Pancan Signature Purplestride event for our area. It is a 5K walk to benefit Pancan Action Network and will be held September 28 at Jacksonville Beach. The Purplestride website address is www.Purplestride.org. The local Pancan group meets at 6:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Mayo Clinic.

Stop by for a tour and receive a coupon for a free daily park pass

Sign up now for the Lawn & Irrigation Class

Learn how to keep your lawn growing and irrigation system in good repair by attending a lawn care and irrigation class at the St. Johns County Extension Office, 3125 Agriculture Center Dr., on Friday, May 24. The class will present University of Florida science-based cultural information. It will run from 9:30 until noon and there is a \$5.00 fee for the class. You can bring weed and turf samples to the class for identification/diagnosis. To register for the class or for additional information, call 209-0430.

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Fashion Update

Swimsuit shopping 2013—taking away those scary fluorescent lights!

By Donna Keathley, dkeathley designs

No fitting-room nightmares, no exposure to the public while trying on—the new way to suit shop is in the privacy of your own home! Yes! Buy that swim wear on the internet my Fashionable Florida Friends (FFFs)!

By now we gals know our good points and bad. Being honest with oneself is necessary if you are going to do this exercise well. I am going to go over some of my swimsuit research and suit buying tips to help you get started on the path of purchasing your perfect suit.

Pleating on a V-neck top camouflages a tummy.

A keyhole top makes the most of little cleavage.

Boning on a bandeau top adds support.

Details like buckles or straps draw attention North.

Empire waist suits flatter curvy figures.

A crisscross back distracts from the derriere.

High-cut legs add inches to the gams.

A solid shade suit streamlines.

Big printed blooms are slimming—as the eye moves.

Tankinis do well on a long torso.

Beading in the bandeau area leads eyes upwards.

A halter-neck suit adds length to a short torso.

Darks downplay you least favorite areas; brights highlight what's right.

To cover a tummy, choose a style with diversion in the middle.

I can not type enough words about that “attention North” subject. A suit with top-enhancements goes a long way in your overall look in a bathing suit. Halters, beading, cute cutwork around the neck, shiny closures, etc., draw your eye North. When working with that North subject in mind, think about your eyewear and dynamite earrings giving more mileage to the “trick.”

More good news is that the swimwear manufactures are finally listening to the consumer.

Tankinis, top and bottom separates bought in different sizes, boy-cut legs and underwire support is proof of this. Other little things the makers are doing, like using hold-everything-in stretch fabric and color blocking goes a long way in helping sell their

suits to real women!

Now armed with all of this information, you can surf the net for your new beach look!

I suggest you make a list of your needs of this said suit. You might be able to get out of the safe haven of the one black swimsuit wardrobe. Remember that some of the sexiest suits might show a lot of skin but they are usually solid and sturdy at the top and bottom.

Suggested suit websites:

Beachbliss.com

Canyonbeachwear.com

Lanebryant.com

Everythingbutwater.com

Spanx.com

When your treasured suit arrives at your mailbox, remember to do the final test of a suit before tearing up that box! It's called the “move around test.” Find the best mirror in your house; now do a little beach practice. I suggest you pretend to be picking up shells or your youngest child, reach up to help your son fly a kite or do some arm paddling in place. The question here is...does everything stay in place without worry? If so, the suit is a go!

May at LPA

By Contributing Writer Stephanie Bradford, Liberty Pines Academy

LPA started the month of May off with Boosterthon. This year's theme “Highway USA – the road to good choices” was a huge success! LPA was decorated with reminders of some good choices our students continue to make. The main event took place on May 8, with the kids enjoying the big Fun Run. Boosterthon is a great program that wraps fitness, leadership, and character together in an unforgettable experience for our students. Thank you for your continued support of Boosterthon here at LPA!

LPA's annual Liberty Parade will take place on Friday, May 24 at 9:00 a.m. If any veteran would like to attend, please submit the following information to Kimberly Sexton (sexton@stjohns.k12.fl.us):

*If a related student attends LPA) Student's name and student's teacher

*Military member relation to student

*Military member name and rank

*Military member branch

LPA invites all veterans and active duty military personnel to join us on May 24.

The PTO Nominating Committee is in the midst of recruiting for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. Please consider sharing your time and talents with LPA by volunteering for a position with the PTO. We are looking to fill one executive board position (treasurer) and several chairperson positions for next year and always have room on committees for new faces. If you are interested in getting further information on any of the positions or on how to become more involved in your PTO, please contact Melissa Kramer at mamakramer@gmail.com. Consider becoming a part of the PTO; it's a fun way to get to know your child's school and your community, so join us!

Please be aware of the following end of course exam dates for middle school students:

May 13: Algebra I exam
May 20: Geometry exam
May 30: Block 3 Blue exam; Block 2 Blue exam
May 31: Block 3 Green exam; Block 2 Green exam
June 3: Block 1 Blue exam; block 1 Green exam
Kindergarten through fifth grade students will take formative assessments May 28 through June 4.

Important upcoming dates:

May 13-17: Scholastic Book Fair

May 14: Night of the Arts, General PTO meeting, Book Fair

May 20-24: Staff Appreciation Week

June 4: Last day of school for students

June 30: Last day to pre-order back-to-school supply kits

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Notes from the Pacetti Bay Media Center

By Contributing Writer Lynn Johnson, NBCT, Library Media Specialist, Pacetti Bay Middle School, IBMYP

I am almost finished reading *They Call me a Hero* by Daniel Hernandez and it is truly inspirational. It is an eye opening account of a young man who has been called to "civic duty," his words, not mine. He has spent all the years since the shooting of Congresswoman Giffords denying that he is a hero. He did what he felt was his obligation and never wanted the limelight that came with it. I have noticed many of our students are gravitating to biographies of a variety of people that have overcome difficulties and made courageous choices in their lives. The importance of good role models cannot be overlooked.

Operation Oleander by Valerie O. Patterson caught my eye recently. It is the story of a young girl who connects to orphans in the country her father is deployed to. She feels strongly about helping through sending care packages and finds herself in the middle of controversy as a bomb goes off and has deadly consequences. I can connect to the book on so many different levels after growing up in the military and going on as a wife of a military man. It is in my "to read" pile. Will let you know if it lives up to my expectations.

I have picked up several books with protagonists of different cultures in preparation for our Evening of Arts Around the World. *The Fire Horse Girl* by Kay Honeyman is the story of Chinese immigrants in 1923. It opened my eyes to the hardships they faced at Angel Island

– the "Ellis Island of the West." It is amazing the courage people had to come to America and start a new life here in spite of the discrimination they battled. *Lovetorn* by Kavita Daswani gives incredible insight to the generational divide between traditional India and modern India. I have missed great historical fiction for the past few years, but I feel like maybe it is slowly making a return. I highly recommend both books. The last one I would like to share of this genre is *Prisoner B-3087* by Alan Gratz. It is actually based on the true story by Ruth and Jack Gruener. This is a tale of survival at an incredible cost during the Holocaust. What makes it unique is the number of prison camps he moves through.

Lost in the River of Grass by Ginny Rorby won the Sunshine State Young Readers Award by a handful of votes. Students in grades six through eight across the state of Florida voted the last weeks in April and chose this book that is set in the Everglades. The PBMS book battle team had quite a discussion about the book as we worked on practicing for the book battle. We all loved the book but thought it was a stretch in the reality concept. After all, how likely is it that two teens could walk barefoot through the Everglades after their airboat capsized and actually make it out alive? Check out the new list of SSYRA titles at www.florida-media.org/?page=ssyrahome. I know that the St. Johns County Public library has the books ready for check out!

BTHS Happenings

Above the call of duty: AP teachers did all they could to prep students for exams

By Kelly Boyer, BTHS Student

AP exams are over and many students are relieved. After countless hours of studying, they did their best to remember everything from what was taught the week before to the first week of school, hoping to get a high enough score on their AP test to earn college credit. Though students studied on their own, their teachers also did everything they could to help their students succeed.

Some teachers offered an after-school practice test for their class. Though these teachers may count this as the class's final, the test offers one of the best tools there is: experience.

"This was my first AP class," remarked Collin Darwin, a freshman. "So I had no idea how the AP test would cover all of what we learned in Human Geography class. Thanks to the practice test, I knew how

to tackle the real test. The AP questions we did as bell work helped a lot too."

"I had no idea how hard the essays would be when I took my practice exam," claimed Melissa Parker, a freshman taking AP Human Geography. "The essays were similar to the actual essays on the test. The practice test helped me see what I needed to study before the real test."

There are some teachers who offered before and after-school study sessions, such as the AP United States History teachers. They spent each session covering a portion of what they had taught over the course of the year. That's a good 500 years of history to remember!

"The history reviews that Mr. Windle and Coach Teuscher did helped jog my memory," said Alesandra Wehmeier, a junior. "They definitely helped when

the AP test came."

And some teachers, like AP Calculus and Computer Science teacher Andrew Lloyd, did both. Based off the scores from the practice tests, he focused on specific topics to study in class, but also offered before-school reviews on key Free Response Questions or FRQs that students struggled with.

"The practice we've had helped a lot," stated Ruth Huang, a senior in Lloyd's AP Calculus AB class, "because I was able to walk in knowing what to expect and I was confident in what we had practiced in class."

However it was done, AP teachers logged in many extra hours these past two months to make sure their students had all the tools they needed to pass the exam, master the FRQs, and reach for the coveted 5.

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6pm – Word 2012: Whether you're new to Word or converting from an older version, this is the class to come to if you can't find that button Microsoft hid this time.

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Garden party cont. from pg. 1

Bower's pet therapy school. The smiles and wagging tails are always eagerly anticipated by the residents.

Resident Joe Tillman gave the keynote address to the volunteers and residents. He is a Vietnam veteran who is unmistakably recognized around the nursing home by his tie-died

apparel and colorful walker. Tillman said to the crowd how impressive it is to see how dedicated all the volunteers are. It was a fun day for all involved.

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So you got into college! Now what?

By Rachel Buff, CHS graduate, University of Pennsylvania student



The hallowed halls of the University of Pennsylvania are not as intimidating as they may seem.

First, congratulations to all 2013 graduating seniors. Fighting through college applications, scholarship essays, AP tests and nagging senioritis is no easy task. Enjoy this thrilling period of accomplishment and recognition – those four years paid off.

But don't get too comfortable. There's still a lot to do as you ease into university life. Spend the next few months with your eyes on this list and you'll see the transition become much smoother.

1) Find your college Facebook group: Honestly, if I hadn't stayed connected with thousands of other UPenn students via social media last summer, I would have missed a lot of deadlines. When you finally commit to a school, take the time to network and meet as many students as possible online. There will always be one person out there who knows something before you do, has an inside scoop or can advise you based on a first-hand account. You don't have to be an audible voice – just stay updated so that you don't miss any important announcements.

2) Start thinking about classes now: Although it might seem too early to think about your fall schedule, it never is. Research the courses that are required for any majors that

you are interested in and take a look at university-wide requirements. Here at UPenn, a writing seminar is required for all students prior to graduation. I was advised to take it first semester and I'm glad I did; I got it out of the way and was able to spend spring semester focused on classes that were of greater interest to me. Although course listings might not become available until later in the summer, it's always a good idea to gain advice and search class reviews online so you can form a rough idea of what you'd like your semester to entail.

3) Utilize local alumni: Upon admittance to your university, you undoubtedly received countless invitations to local alumni events and meetings. Grasp this opportunity to

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network with past and current students who are actively involved in your college community. Sure, these brunches and get-togethers might be awkward, but you should never pass up the chance to meet someone who can put in a good word for you when you want that summer internship or can at least tell you which professors to avoid. In any case you

will get free food.

4) Enjoy the next few months: The summer after high school is one of the most glorious limbos I have ever experienced. There are no summer assignments, no expectations – just time with friends and family, holding on to every special moment and memory. The days will be marked by a vague urgency as you realize

that the time is limited before your classmates pack up one by one and head to school. But days will also be marked by optimism and an exhilarating fear that can only be the result of drastic change. Fret not – enjoy every second, but look forward to the end. Because the end is really the beginning, and there are so many great things waiting for you there.

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May is Healthy Vision Month

May is Healthy Vision Month and Clay Eye Physicians and Surgeons and the National Eye Institute (NEI) recognize the importance of maintain healthy vision.

Melanie Javier, O.D., optometrist at Clay Eye Physicians and Surgeons states, "It is my job as an eye care provider to encourage patients to schedule an annual eye exam. An annual comprehensive eye exam can detect common vision related problems as well as significant eye diseases, some which may not even have any warning signs."

She continues, "Your eyes are an important part of your overall health, so here are a few tips from the NEI on preserving your sight."

1.) Have a comprehensive dilated eye exam: While you may think your vision is healthy, only with a comprehensive dilated eye exam will you be completely sure. Many common eye diseases such as glaucoma, diabetic eye disease and age-related macular degeneration often have no warning signs.

2.) Know your family's eye health history: It's important to know if you have a hereditary eye disease or are at high risk for developing an eye condition.

3.) Eat properly: Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables and fish high in omega-3 fatty acids, are good for your eyes.

4.) Maintain a healthy weight: Being overweight or obese increases your risk of developing diabetes and other systemic conditions that can lead to vision loss.

5.) Wear protective eyewear: It is important that you protect your eyes with protective eyewear which includes safety glasses/goggles, safety shields and eye guards.

6.) Don't smoke: Research has shown an increased risk of developing age-related macular degeneration, cataract and optic nerve damage (all which can lead to blindness).

7.) Wear sunglasses: Make sure to protect your eyes from the sun's UV-A and UV-B rays.

8.) Rest your eyes: If you sit at a computer all day—give your eyes a rest. Every 20 minutes, look away about 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds....the 20-20-20 rule. It reduces eyestrain.

Dr. Javier concludes, "Early

detection of any eye disease is so important, so if you haven't had an eye exam in the past year, schedule one today."

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Local high school students to get unique look at United States Naval Academy

The United States Naval Academy (USNA) invited a select group of approximately 2,550 young men and women from around the nation and abroad to attend the Naval Academy Summer Seminar program this year. Summer Seminar is a fast-paced leadership experience for rising seniors in high school. This program helps educate, motivate and prepare selected students who are considering applying for admission to USNA. William Duncan, Scott Jones and Nicole Thatcher, students at Nease High School, will participate in the 2013 United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar program.

Summer Seminar teaches prospective applicants about life at the Naval Academy, where academics, athletics, and professional training are key elements in developing our nation's leaders. Each student will attend a six-day session and experience a glimpse of USNA life. Students will have the opportunity to live in Bancroft Hall, eat in King Hall along with participating in academic and leadership workshops. They will also participate in daily physical training involving group runs and conditioning exercises. They will experience first-hand what the Naval Academy has to offer

through its exceptional academic, athletic, extracurricular activities and leadership training programs.

Summer Seminar has an academic focus, with each student attending eight 90-minute workshops, covering subjects from information technology, naval architecture and mechanical engineering, to oceanography, mathematics, history and meteorology. Students will also participate in seamanship and navigation classes and will take a cruise aboard a Navy Yard Patrol (YP) craft to apply what they will learn in class. Naval Academy Midshipmen lead Summer Seminar with oversight

by active-duty Navy and Marine Corps officers.

For more information about the Naval Academy, please visit www.usna.edu or the USNA Admissions Facebook page.

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Summer Camp & Activities Guide



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What to do with the children this summer? Featured Summer Camps and Activities 2013

Summer is only a few short weeks away! *The CreekLine* would like to suggest the following camps and programs for you to consider for the kids this summer:

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Afternoon dance and gymnastics classes are offered with Intensive Summer Dance from July 8-11. Our professional staff will be ready for students who are willing to work hard and get ready for the new dance year. www.markspivak.com.

Regardless of the grade your child is in, **Huntington Learning Center** is your summer tutoring solution. This summer let Huntington's Subject Tutoring Program help. We specialize in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus, science, reading, writing, math and study skills. We help students score higher on exams as the SAT/PSAT/ACT and FCAT. We create an individualized program around a student's strengths and weaknesses. Huntington's methods help students master test-taking skills and develop problem solving skills. In addition to boosting confidence and motivation, we restore self-esteem. This summer let our certified instructors give your child the academic edge. Parents can select convenient days and hours to fit busy summer schedules. Contact us today to customize your child's summer program. Visit our website at www.huntington-helps.com.

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Wards Creek May update

By Contributing Writer Ricke Ricciardelli, Corresponding Secretary, WCE PTO

Wards Creek PTO held its annual Business Partners Appreciation breakfast at Davidson Realty. Thank you business partners, we couldn't do this without you.

We are so proud of our third, fourth and fifth grade students. They rocked the 2012-2013 school year FCAT tests.

The Wards Creek Spring Leadership Festival is Friday, May 17 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We will have bouncy houses, rock climbing wall, dunk tank, obstacle courses, face painting and many other fun activities. We will have food vendors and many, many

wonderful baskets up for raffle. The sky's the limit! Plan on a fun family night.

Our fifth graders will graduate on May 29. This is the first class to have attended Wards Creek Elementary all the way from kindergarten through fifth grade. You have been a joy and we will sure miss you guys! We wish you the best.



Wards Creek Elementary would like to congratulate some of our wonderful Safety Leaders this month, Nicholas Witherspoon, Owen Taylor, Kealani Fuata, Annabelle Warner and AnnaElise Burns. These students have shown excellent leadership skills on and off duty.

Three fun-filled days at Hickory Creek

By Contributing Writers Coach Bobby Brill and Laurie Argott



Kindergartener Ben Dolce hops to the finish line in the sack race.

Hickory Creek Elementary School recently held its 2013 Field Day. The purpose of the event is for students to participate in physical education activities, enjoy friendly competition with their classmates and most importantly, have fun. The students participated by grade level on different days. Kindergarten and first grade kicked off

the three-day event. They were followed by the second and third graders. The last day of the competition concluded with grades fourth and fifth.

This year, more than 800 students took part in the fun-filled activities. They included the rescue relay, big shirt relay, sack race, flash card race, pass and squat, teacher draw, down together and back together, skip forward and run back backwards, egg and spoon race, hula hoop race, shuttle relay, double hula hoop race, bean bag balance race, toilet paper roll race, bat race, number order race, over-under relay, carry all race, down on the back and back with the knees, hippity-hop relay, balloon pop, sentence relay, ABC order race, waiter race, and dribble race.

Students in second through fifth grades ended Field Day with a tug of war competition. Congratulations to the following classes who won for their grade level:

- Second Grade: Torrey Ford
- Third Grade: Kate Guthmiller

and Colleen Begley
 Fourth Grade: Jennifer Lee
 Fifth Grade: Sue Benes

Coach Matt Mecke and Coach Bobby Brill would like to thank all the parent and staff volunteers who helped make the 2013 Hickory Creek Field Day a great success.



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Schools celebrate business partners



Durbin Creek Elementary and Fruit Cove Middle recently held a business partner social at Latitude 30. Many thanks for all of your support! Photo courtesy of Oelridge Video and Photography

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Summer Camp & Activities Guide

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Brownie Troop 649 collected 36 boxes of donated Girl Scout cookies. On April 10, the troop met with Dr. Paul Goricki, Hickory Creek Elementary's principal, to turn over the 36 boxes to Hickory's Heart food pantry, which services the HCE school community. Troop 649 also has big plans for the money they earned from the cookie sale. The girls are buying and donating coloring books for sick children at Wolfson Children's Hospital, along with providing a special treat for the nurses. They are also donating money to the local troop who lost all of their cookie money proceeds. Brownie Troop 649 is made up of nine HCE second grade girls: Elise Habres, McKenna Dionne, Hanna Glatz, Kaylen Green, Avery Mendheim, Abby Bell, Emily Gaunt, El-lie McCormick and Sophia Lomanaco.

Congratulations to Katelyn Felegy, daughter of RT Publishing, Inc. graphic designer Lisa Felegy, who was recently announced as the winner of the Bob Wright Memorial Scholarship. According to Kristi Ackley, program assistant for organizational development of the Initiative Foundation, Felegy earned the scholarship due to her leadership, academic accomplishments and initiative in community and extracurricular activities. Felegy will be attending Canisius College in Buffalo, New York, where she will play on the school's soccer team and major in a medical-related field of study. The Bob Wright Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a family member of an Independent Free Papers of America (IFPA)-affiliated publication and this is the second time that a family member of local company RT Publishing, Inc. has earned the scholarship.



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Summer Camp & Activities Guide

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Afterschool program director joins growing staff



The Academy at Julington Creek, one of the area's top-rated early education providers and childcare centers, has expanded its staff with the addition of Kim McGlothlin who will serve as the center's afterschool program manager. McGlothlin will manage The Academy's special programs for spring break, summer camp and afterschool learning and activities. The Academy at Julington Creek provides proven and researched programs to provide dynamic environments for school-aged children.

McGlothlin has 25 years of experience in the childcare and early education field. Most recently, she served as director of Primrose School of Julington Creek. She previously owned her own licensed childcare cen-

ter, served as a director at the Knowledge Learning Center in Julington Creek and was an extended day program assistant and teacher with the St. Johns County School District. She has experience managing curriculums and activities as well as managing center operations and providing healthy and safe environments for students.

Before beginning her childcare and education career, McGlothlin served in the United States Navy as a petty officer, second class. She is currently completing a degree in business administration with the New York Institute of Technology and holds a credential in early care and education, awarded by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). She has lived in the Julington Creek area for more than 12 years.

The Academy at Julington Creek has one of the highest readiness scores of all comparable centers in the area.

Bunny Buddies celebrate a decade at JCE

By Contributing Writer Paula Cervone, Second Grade Teacher, Julington Creek Elementary

This was the 10th year that Julington Creek Elementary second graders each made "bunny buddies" to give to children entering Nemours Children's Clinic. This year we will donate 180 bunnies made from dishcloths and ribbons!

The bunnies are washable, cuddly and each have a poem and note written by the child who created the bunny. We have also enclosed a set of directions so, if washed, the bunny can easily be recreated for the child.

For the fourth time, we also collected new and gently

used books for the children at Nemours. We were hoping for one to go with each bunny, but ended up with over 375 books. The people at Nemours love the bunnies and books and are thrilled to have something to give the children as they enter a very stressful situation. Parents are disbelieving that they are getting "something for nothing" and their children do not want to let them go.

The second graders are proud of what they have made and are anxious to give them to another child in need. We will

continue this service again for the next school year, as part of our Character Counts! program.



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June 4

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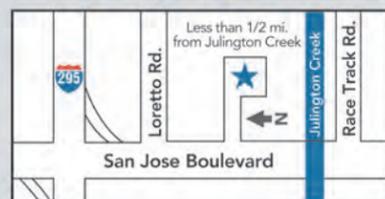
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A Spring Break postcard: From the French Quarter to the French Countryside

By Sarah Schreck, CHS Student

Ah, spring break in Florida. Time to go to the beach, make pilgrimages to the theme parks of Orlando and get away from it all. Well, if you think you got away from it all, try to beat this—while most Creekside students were relaxing in the Florida sun, two groups of students boarded buses and planes to two different ends of the Earth, with striking similarities!

New Orleans and its eclectic French Quarter greeted hordes of band students as they began their adventure. Jazz poured out of every part of the trip, especially on the streets!

Elise Devaney shared, “The street performers really connected you to the heart of New Orleans’ culture from musicians

and dance troops to magicians and artists, all trying to make their way sharing what they love to do.”

The Jazz Band played in Dutch Alley, toured the town, experienced local cuisine, walked through the National World War II Museum and even let loose, New Orleans style!

“The most memorable moment of the trip would have to be at Michaul’s Cajun restaurant, when every person on the trip got up and danced together on the smallest little dance floor and everyone just completely let go and had fun, even those who claim they don’t dance,” Devaney explained.

While the band ate beignets and toured a World War

II museum, a group of history students... did the same. Well, sort of. They were in France! History teachers Aletha Dresback, Laura Wynn and Stacy Ray, along with parental chaperones and a native tour guide, Magali, toured students across the French countryside. From the beaches of Normandy to Notre Dame, the chateaus of the Loire River valley to the magical Le Mont Saint-Michel, Creekside’s adventurers got an up-close-and-personal education.

Rachel Sizemore was surprised by a fact she learned at the Palace of Versailles.

“I learned that it was an honor to help the king dress himself and people used to fight for that right,” she said. However, her favorite part of the trip was walking up to the floating city of Le Mont St. Michel and seeing the “rewarding view from the very top. It was amazing and that is one of the places I want to revisit.”

“What Hollywood tells you about other countries is completely wrong. They’ll show you a beautiful, romantic country with beautiful, romantic and sort of testy people who smoke a lot. But these movies hardly do the magnificence of France and its people justice,” shared Christen Hancock. Those on the trip learned that not only are the French accommodating and kind, their quaint towns and graceful castles offer a magical glance into the past.

Victoria Borntraeger, like many on the trip, had a moment of reflection.

“After climbing the stairs



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*As measured by the readiness scores posted by the Florida Department of Education.

up to the second floor of the Eiffel tower, we discovered a little cafe. Eating Nutella, drinking hot cocoa with friends and

looking out to see the famous city of Paris beneath you, you just know that you’re on a trip of a lifetime,” she concluded.



CHS Band in New Orleans.

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Summer Camp & Activities Guide

Summer Camps cont. from pg. 20

Living Waters Preschool and Kindergarten invites you to Summer Day Camp! Pack your suitcases and buckle your seat belts; we're "cruisin" up the coast on I-95 from Miami to Maine this summer! From race cars to regattas we have action packed plans for your children. Come join us for music, arts and crafts, discovery, games and special visitors to the Switzerland Community Church campus. We'll be "on the road" in June and July. We are proud to

provide small classes, dedicated teachers, lively curriculum and an accredited half day kindergarten program. Make LWP&K part of your child's educational plan for the 2013-2014 school year. Call 287-2883.

Back by popular demand—**Drama Kids International and Young Rembrandts Summer Arts Camp!** Students ages six through 12 will experience a camp that is a unique combination of performing and visual

arts activities that are designed to promote confidence and self-esteem. Our captivating themes will spark students' imaginations as they prepare an end-of-camp showcase for family and friends. Help your student discover their inner artist! Register before June 1 and save! Camps will be held June 17 – 21 at Geneva Presbyterian Church and August 5 – 9 at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church. Register online today at www.DramaKids.com/fl3.

Meet Creeks Soccer Technical Directors

Creeks Soccer is pleased to welcome Felipe Munoz as our Premier Boys Technical Director.

We are also very pleased to continue our relationship with Mike Pickett as our Premier Girls Technical Director and Matthew Harrison as our Director of Academy. We feel we have three of the best soccer experts in the area as part of our professional staff. These three soccer minds will work together to make Creeks Soccer the place to play in the greater Jacksonville area. Please visit our website at creeksoccer.com for details on our club and read the Bio's of these three outstanding soccer trainers.

www.creeksoccer.com

manners, computers and technology, literature and language, music and movement, sports and games and special visitors that provide exciting learning opportunities in a safe and secure environment. Children march in playground parades, learn about creepy crawlies, send letters to pen pals and enjoy splish splash days. To discover how Goddard can make this summer your child's best learning experience yet, please visit www.goddardschool.com.

get the royal treatment, including fabulous makeup for our teens, trendy hair styles, photo sessions and a fashion show. For children, we include social etiquette and poise and how to act in television commercials. Extended day care is available and campers should bring a sack lunch. Register online at sessionsmodeling.com.

At CCA, the mission is clear...to make disciples, more disciples and better disciples through excellence in academics, athletics and the arts. To Christ's Church Academy class of 2013...congratulations! Whether a student chooses to enter full-time ministry or becomes a leader in the board room, we know CCA graduates are impacting the world. Join us in celebrating the success

Summer Camps cont. on pg. 26

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The Academy at Julington Creek announces Adventure Club camp for ages five through 12. Our summer camp is designed for children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade and are looking for a wider variety of summer adventures. Our camp will include a weekly educational curriculum, weekly water days, high-energy summer activities and many field trips each week to unique venues. Weekly drop-in options are available as well as fulltime three to five day schedules, so you only pay for the weeks you need this summer. All meals, snacks, activities and field trips are included in camp cost. Join us for a Great Summer Adventure! Visit <http://www.theacademyatjulingtoncreek.net/>.

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Drama Kids & Young Rembrandts Summer Camps

Ask about our early bird & referral discounts!

By popular demand we are offering two camps this summer! Don't Miss Out!!

Join us for a truly unique camp adventure that will spark your imagination while developing confidence and self-esteem. Campers **ages 6-12** will experience a camp that is a combination of performing and visual arts activities. All campers will prepare an end-of-camp showcase for family and friends. **Register today and help discover your inner artist!**



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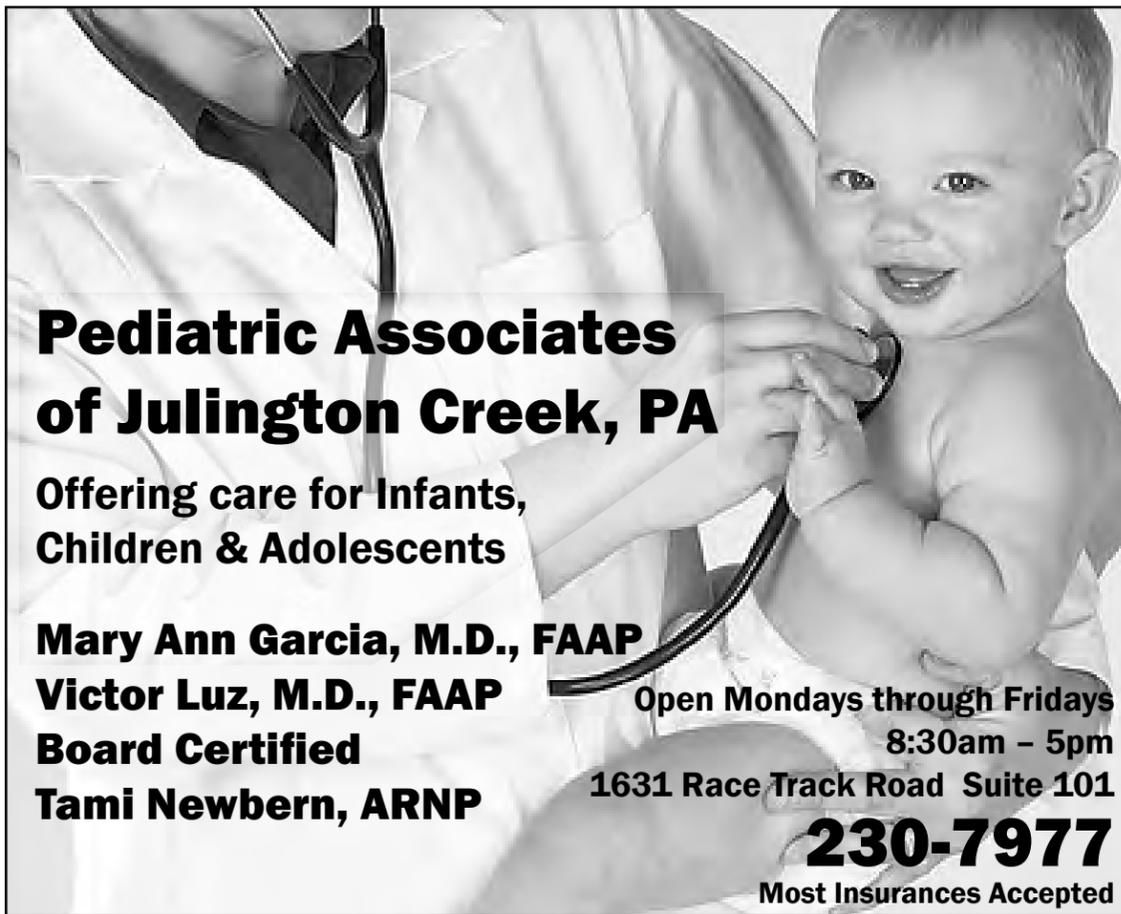
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Summer Camp & Activities Guide



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Summer Camps cont. from pg. 25

stories behind the following college acceptances for the Class of 2013: 25 percent of the senior class was accepted to the University of Florida, as well as FSU, UCF, FAU, USF, Stetson, Samford University, Southeastern University, Clemson, Auburn, Baylor, Furman, JU, Florida Gulf Coast University, Valdosta State, Biola University, Azusa Pacific University, Flagler, University of Tulsa, Rollins, Birmingham Southern, Belmont Abbey, Liberty, Cederville, Milligan, Florida Southern and Santa Fe College.

grams offering several nutritious choices. Camp weeks are all themed, so whether your child comes for one or all, the experience will be unique. Each week ends with an ice show where campers show off their new skills to family and friends. For more experienced skaters, we offer elite camps during select weeks. All camps are staffed by qualified coaches and counselors and offer an array of activities both on and off the ice. For those just supplementing other summer activities, check out our Learn to Skate classes continuing throughout the summer. www.jaxiceandsportsplex.com.

Jacksonville Ice and Sportsplex offers the coolest camp experience with ice skating and hockey camps. Learn to Skate camps are ideal for any level skater— especially first timers! Before and after care is available as well as lunch pro-




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- Session 3 / July 22-24
- Session 4 / August 5-7



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GolfSouthHampton.com

Mark your calendar for Feel the Wheels

Ever wondered how a bulldozer works? Or how to raise the bucket on an excavator? Or how a police officer turns on the siren? On Saturday, June 1, you and your family have the opportunity to find out the answers together!

The Junior Service League of St. Augustine (JSL) is proud to present Feel the Wheels, a fundraiser benefiting The Children's Museum of St. Johns (CMSJ). Feel the Wheels will be set up in front of the St. Augustine Outlet Mall on the east side of Interstate 95 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We invite you to explore construction vehicles, semi-trucks, service vehicles, boats and much, much more!

A variety of hands-on, children's activities will be provided at the event to add to the festive atmosphere, including a Big Wheels course and a remote controlled race car track. A variety of delicious food items will be available from local food vendors, including Zaxby's, Cold Cow Ice Cream and many more.

Tickets are \$5 for children three and up. Adults and children under three receive free admission. All of the proceeds from Feel the Wheels will go

toward helping establish the Children's Museum of St. Johns (CMSJ) here in St. Augustine.

For more information please

visit www.facebook.com/ExploreCMSJ or contact Stephanie Hunter at stephaniehunter@jslofstaugustine.org.



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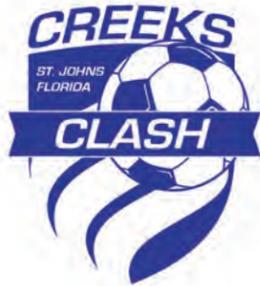
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Summer Camp & Activities Guide

Creeks Clash Premier Tryouts



**Creeks Clash Premier Tryouts
May 28 – June 1st at Veteran's Park**

Try-outs are open to all
Boys and Girls Players
U11 – U18

Creeks Soccer offers its premier players the opportunity to train up to five days a week, including Speed and Agility sessions run by Donovin Darius's Next Level Training. All teams will have a minimum of two team sessions a week, plus technical training sessions run by the Creeks Technical Directors, Mike Pickett and Felipe Munoz. New for 2013 is that all teams will have individual trainers assigned that will train with the team throughout the entire season. All training and SAQ is included with the Creeks Soccer Premier Program tuition. Creeks Soccer coaches are some of the best in the area. Multiple USSF "A" and "B", NSCAA Premier, and National Diploma licenses. Please check out the coaches list at Creeksoccer.com for additional information and background of each of the Creek's Coaches and Trainers.

Additional Reasons to Play at Creeks:

- Train at Veteran's Park – Best facility in North Florida
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Fruit Cove Middle School Raised \$7216.77 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through the Pasta for Pennies program. Funds are used for local patients and their families going through treatment. Many of our students and teachers have been touched by this disease and felt the need to help others.



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On April 11, Publix Charities presented a \$208,200 check to United Way of St. Johns County. This gift represents a match of Publix associates' individual giving to United Way which totaled \$270,797 for a total contribution of \$478,997. At the check presentation are Tony Zeaiter, Publix Supermarkets district manager; Steve Bryant, Mission Trace manager; Ann Breidenstein, United Way; Kathy Lobinsky, Vilano Beach Town Center manager; Chuck Hooper, Cobblestone Village manager; and Barry Rickelman, Anastasia Plaza manager.

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Nease Winterguard cont. from pg. 1 together last year, starting off in Scholastic A class before being promoted to Scholastic Open based on their high scores. Since they finished last year's season in a medal position in Dayton, they were automatically promoted to the highest level of scholastic competition, Scholastic World class, where they have performed this whole year. Making the finals in Scholastic World class in Dayton in April, in their first year competing at this level, is quite an accomplishment.

"We were competing against teams that had been in World class finals anywhere from four to 20 years," shared team member Jordan Zastera.

The team traveled via bus for the 16-hour trip to Dayton, leaving on Tuesday night, April 9. After their arrival in Dayton, the team had time for practices and watching other Winterguard teams compete prior to their preliminary performance on Thursday, April 11. Semifinals were held on Friday, April 12 and the team's finish in 11th place ensured them a spot in the top 15 teams who qualified for finals the following day.

"We had strong runs of our show for prelims and semi-finals," said Zastera. "But we were most excited to have our best run of the season—drop free!—in finals."

According to Moser, "Nease has never had a team in Scholastic World finals. This is truly a dream come true for the staff and members. It is not easy to rise to this level of competition. It took hard work, commitment and a lot of trust!"

Moser is optimistic that the Winterguard program at Nease will continue to grow, including the establishment of a middle school program to begin the training early for high school activity.

"I am confident Nease Winterguard will continue to set standards in the activity and portray Nease High School in a positive manner. I am more than pleased with not only this season but the overall growth since 2006 for our program when Michael Johnson became band director and brought me back to Nease," concluded Moser.

The Nease Winterguard is part of the band program at Nease High School, under the direction of band director Michael Johnson.

Medicare matters to Creekside students and JCP seniors

Students in the Emerging Technology Academy at Creekside High School recently completed an educational program sponsored by Florida Blue called Medicare Matters. The project's goal was to inform seniors about Medicare through community outreach.

Creekside's class, led by teacher Lynda Kelly, learned about Medicare plans, guidelines and tips for choosing coverage. Amy Larkin and Larry Mazzocchi from Florida Blue's Medicare Solutions area facilitated the curriculum. An aging simulation called "Suddenly Senior" gave Creekside's seniors new perspective on "senior life." Students wore glasses simulating cataracts and gloves with rubber bands wrapped around their knuckles to simulate arthritis. Students then tried to conduct simple activities like retrieving coins from pockets and putting them into vending machines. Lesson learned - aging's tough!

Equipped with newfound appreciation for senior life, students were divided into five teams. Their assignment: use multi-media technology

to develop and deliver senior-friendly presentations about specific Medicare-related topics including Medicare Supplement, Medicare Rx Plans, Medicare HMOs, Medicare PPOs and Medicare for caregivers.

The teams used public resources to learn about designated topics. Additionally, Florida Blue conducted competitions and brought in subject experts from Medicare Solutions to explain senior-friendly web design and ways to simplify Medicare explanations. On May 3, students delivered presentations to Julington Creek Plantation's Senior Breakfast Club. Despite torrential rain, many attended; including a 97-year-old woman accompanied by her daughter.

"I don't know anything about Medicare," she told students.

Fortunately, her daughter had assumed responsibility for these issues; a common trend in our society.

Florida Blue addressed Medicare questions and provided helpful handouts. Then the audience rated the "senior-friendliness of students" pre-



Creekside MVPs Adrienne Lim, David Klein, Michael Claudio, Kayla Tooley, teacher Lynda Kelly and Danielle Soto

sentations. Prizes were awarded to the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan team who achieved the highest rating. Awards were also presented to MVPs from all five teams. Best of all, each student received a letter of endorsement from Elizabeth Strombom, senior vice president of government markets at Florida Blue.

"This project provided life lessons that students will never forget," said Lynda Kelly. "Many academy students have extend-

ed family that lives nearby and this initiative offered a great opportunity to meaningfully connect with their parents and grandparents."

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If you fixate on the worst-case scenario, and it actually happens, you've lived it **twice.**
 ~Michael J. Fox

Dog lovers establish scholarship for dog obedience training

By Contributing Writer Julie Parker

Five years ago I started Be A Pack Leader Dog Walking Club, a free dog-walking club that encourages dog owners to get out and walk their dogs with a pack primarily for exercise and socialization. Our informal loose-knit group usually meets twice a month at parks or nature preserves to walk our dogs and sometimes stop for a picnic lunch or occasionally we stop to dine at dog-friendly restaurants after a walk. In addition to the dog walks, we've hosted free canine educational programs for the general public at St. Johns County libraries.

During the last two years we have been able to establish a unique Be A Pack Leader Dog Walking Club Dog Training Scholarship Fund in partnership with the St. Augustine Humane

Society. Generous financial support and yard sale contributions from dog lovers and dog walkers have enabled the club to establish the scholarship fund to send dogs and their humans to basic obedience dog training classes. Because of our partnership with the St. Augustine Humane Society, a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, anyone who is interested in donating to the dog training scholarship fund can receive a tax deduction.

I strongly believe in dog training because of experiences with my own dogs and dogs in the club that often have common problems such as aggression, overreacting, hyperactivity, lunging and pulling. It was no surprise to find out that behavior problems are one of the most common reasons people

relinquish their dogs to a shelter and that 96 percent of the dogs in shelters have received no obedience training according to the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy. Because of this serious lack of training, especially for dogs that end up in shelters and the high euthanasia rate, the dog walking club wanted to do something to help alleviate this problem for dogs in St. Johns County.

To learn more about the Be A Pack Leader Dog Walking Club walks and the dog training scholarship application, please visit www.beapackleaderdog-walkingclub.com.

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Capital campaign successfully completed

On March 17, River Garden completed its capital campaign, Building Our Future...Together, raising over \$7,660,000. During the agency's annual meeting, Martin A. Goetz, River Garden CEO, gave a special thank you to honorary chairs, Linda and David Stein, who made a lead gift of \$1 million and chairs Susan DuBow and Sandy Zimmerman.

The funds raised enabled the agency to add a 10,000 square-foot addition, to grow its out-patient services, including The Therapy Center and Adult

Day Care programs. In the next few months River Garden Senior Services' Home Healthcare program will expand as well as a result of the campaign.

"The success of our campaign is due to the relationship River Garden has with everyone who walks through our doors," says development director, Kathy Osterer. "Our commitment to treat every client and their families with dignity and respect is River Garden's number one priority."

River Garden is nationally

recognized as a system of services for aging adults and their families.

River Garden was ranked one of the Best Nursing Homes in the United States by US News & World Report last month. This prestigious status reflects River Garden's 5-star ranking for overall performance in health inspections, nurse staffing and quality of medical care by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the federal agency that sets and enforces standards for nursing homes.

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Spotlight on Students

Lexi Cunio, a student at Nease High School, was named Lombardi Scholar at the University of Florida. UF chooses only 11 students statewide to receive their prestigious Lombardi Scholarship. The scholarship not only helps fund their UF education, but provides four summers' worth of studying abroad, internships, academic research

and other enrichment programs designed to enhance student leadership and problem-solving skills, encourage service to the community, increase confidence and integrate classroom learning with real-world experience. This is an enormous honor and we all wish her the best of luck!

Madison Stenzel, a Nease High School International Baccalaureate (IB) student, earned a top composite score of 36 on a recent ACT test. This achievement is not only significant, but quite rare. Nationally less than one-tenth of 1 percent of students who take the ACT earns a top score. Among test takers in the high school graduating class of 2012, only 781 of more than 1.66 million students earned a composite score of 36. In a letter recognizing this exceptional achievement, ACT CEO Jon Whitmore said, "While test scores are just one of the many criteria that most colleges consider when making admission decisions, your exceptional ACT composite score should prove helpful as you pursue your education and career goals." Congratulations Madison!

Isabel Matos, a Language Exploration Enrichment (LEE) student and fifth grader at Durbin Creek Elementary, was recognized as the Scholar of the Year, sponsored by Florida Foreign Language Association (FFLA). Matos has taken Spanish with LEE since kindergarten. Last summer she traveled to Puerto Rico and enjoyed ordering food in Spanish and speaking to some of her family members in Spanish. "I am incredibly proud of Isabel's accomplishments and her eagerness to learn another language. Learning Spanish in elementary school is imperative and in line with the Common Core Standards, said Maria Janet Robles, LEE co-administrator. This is the eighth consecutive year that a Language Exploration Enrichment (LEE) student has been recognized by FFLA and the St. Johns County School Board.

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How to successfully housetrain a new puppy

By Contributing Writer Renate Kinscheck, dog training and problem solving

One of your first tasks upon getting a new puppy is to train him to relieve himself outside. Here are some tips to help things go smoothly.

Most puppies, unless they have had bad experiences, want to be cooperative as long as they understand what you want and are able to comply. The key is to ensure that he always relieves himself in the correct place. Each time he relieves himself in the wrong place without interruption, he is learning that that is ok.

When you are at home, keep the puppy in a crate. Dogs do not like to relieve themselves where they sleep. Also, give the puppy a chew toy or stuffed kong while he is in the crate. Alternatively, you can tie the puppy to your waist using a seven to 10 foot leash.

At three weeks of age, a puppy can only "hold it" for 45 minutes, according to Ian Dunbar, renown dog behaviorist. So, at that age, take the puppy outside every 45 minutes. As you are taking her out, say "outside." As she is eliminating, repeat a special word such as "pee pee" or "poo poo." This will help later if you want your dog to eliminate on command. Praise her profusely as soon as she has finished.

If your puppy starts to relieve himself in the house, sharply and loudly say "no" and grabbing the leash and heading for the door, say firmly "outside."

If you have to leave your puppy alone at home for longer than an hour and overnight, confine him to a small room or a blocked-off portion of a room or hallway, with some newspapers where he can relieve himself away from where he is lying down.

If you have left your dog with access to the house and he has relieved himself in your absence, do not punish him.

Don't rub his nose in it. You let him have access to the house before he was ready. Even if you believe that punishment is appropriate, it is too late now. After time has elapsed, he won't know why he is being punished.

Be aware that if you do punish your puppy, he may engage in submissive urination. Some puppies and even older dogs urinate as a way to show submission or appeasement.

For additional information, please contact mally241@gmail.com.

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Rotary Club of Bartram Trail recognizes LPA Teacher of the Quarter

By Contributing Writer Carol A. Higley

The Rotary Club of Bartram Trail's third Teacher of the Quarter recognition award was recently presented by Rotarians Michael Andreoni and Randy Johnson. Rotating schools each quarter, the Rotary Club of Bartram Trail works with school principals for nominations of teachers that exemplify excellence in education.

This quarter the award was presented to Alexandra Martin, an eighth grade social studies teacher at Liberty Pines Academy (LPA). In addition to her daily educator duties, she is responsible for organizing the annual eighth grade field trip to Washington D.C., producing the morning show and creating the eighth grade memory CD. She is known as a very popular and effective teacher at the school.

One of her current students said, "She is always there to help you if you do not understand. She takes things deeper for you. And she is not there

just as a teacher; you can go to her for anything." Another student commented: "I understand history better because of her."

Judith Thayer, LPA principal, remarked, "Mrs. Martin challenges her students to be good citizens and inspires them to be lifelong learners. Her love of students is infectious. Her leadership is exemplary."

Martin, joined by her husband Jorge, was recognized at the April 11 Rotary Club meet-

ing. Thanks to our business partner sponsors, Bozard Ford and Bartram Walk Zaxby's for their support. We are proud to collaboratively recognize model educators in our local community. Congratulations!

The club meets at 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays during April, May and June at Westminster Woods in Julington Creek. For more information, please contact club president, Thomas Carroll, at tfcarrollusmc@gmail.com.



PBMS PTSO celebrates Arts Around the World

By Contributing Writer Sharon Davis



PBMS band members Mason Meadows, Ian Estes, Christopher Eichorn and Jennifer Kirsch perform

Pacetti Bay Middle School hosted "Arts Around the World" on April 23. This event showcased not only Pacetti Bay Middle School and its feeder elementary schools' performing

and visual art programs, but emphasized the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IBMYP or IB) that Pacetti Bay was accredited with at the beginning of the school

year. It focused on all the arts from a global perspective.

A presentation honoring those that worked so diligently to help PBMS attain the IB accreditation started the evening. Principal Sue Sparkman presented past IB coordinator Melissa Lime, current IB coordinator Kate Houston, assistant principal Kelly Jacobson and a host of student IB ambassadors with a certificate recognizing the achievement.

The evening progressed with performances by the PBMS cheerleaders, chorus, band, performing arts and percussion groups. A sneak peak was given of the PBMS eighth grade musical, *High School Musical*, which was presented in full on May 7. The Wards Creek Elementary chorus also performed.

A delicious dinner was provided by Pollo Tropical with desserts from the World Golf Village Renaissance. Starbucks and Dolce Bakery provided some tasty treats for attendees as well. Flowers arrangements were provided by Kuhn's St. Augustine along with balloon bouquets provided by Celebrations. A variety of gift baskets compiled by classes were given away and a silent auction allowed several lucky people to walk away with some wonderful items ranging from Universal passes to mini getaways. All proceeds from the night will go towards continued training for and ongoing development of the Pacetti Bay Middle School IBMYP.

Thank you to all those in PBMS PTSO cont. on pg. 31

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LOCAL Garage Sales
Community wide garage sale for Mallard Landing, Saturday, May 25 from 8am - 2pm. Located just east of SR13 on Roberts Road.
Moving/Downsizing Sale - Furniture, Lots of household items, ladders, chain saw, tools for working in the yard. Saturday, May 18th 8am-1pm. 1001 Flora Parke Dr., The Parkes at Julington Creek.

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PBMS PTSO cont. from pg. 30 the community who attended. A special thank you goes out to Tracie Wilson and Courtney Scherer for all their hard work in organizing the night's events. Teacher Appreciation week was held May 6 through 10. PTSO held several special events for the teachers throughout the week with "A Night at the Oscars" theme. Thank you to all the families that contributed to the week's activities and helped

us show our appreciation for the wonderful teachers at PBMS and all they do for the students. It's never too early to join PTSO for the 2013-2014 school year. Membership applications are accepted at any time. Membership is \$15 per family and includes a copy of the school directory. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. in the PBMS Media Center. All are welcome.

More information can be found at www-pbm.stjohns.k12.fl.us/ptso/. PTSO is grateful for the support of the community as we work to raise funds to support programs at PBMS. If you own a business and are interested in partnering with the PTSO or are an individual with fundraising ideas, please contact Debbie Adams dadams2@att.net.

Tour local horse farms at annual event

The St. Johns County Horse Council will be hosting its second annual Horse Farm Tour on Saturday, May 18. Three farms will be featured, each offering various demonstrations, activities, food, prizes and giveaways. This event is free to the public. Children must be supervised and no dogs (other than service dogs) are allowed.

The tour starts at 9:00 a.m. at Star 4 Ranch, located at 4300 County Road 208 in St. Augustine. Star 4 will offer obstacle and Parelli games, demonstrations and hayrides. Vendors will include Happy's Horse Camp, which operates out of Star 4 Ranch and Dark Horse Horsehair Jewelry. Light breakfast will be served at this farm.

The tour continues at 12:00 noon at Picalata Farms, located at 7520 County Road 208. Featured vendors are Optimal Horse Boarding Environment at Picalata Farms, Atlantic Veterinary Hospital, Farrier Brian Tindell, Western Saddle maker, Hal Rogers of Saddle Creek Ranch, Old City Life Magazine, Korner Feed Supply and Diamonds in

the Rough Rescue. This tour will feature a demonstration by Cindy Norman of Norman Natural Horsemanship. Lunch will be served by Hot Diggity Dawgs.

The tour concludes at 3:00 p.m. at Steppingstone Farm, located at 2191 Toco Terrace, owned by Nina Fisher. Steppingstone has been in business since 1998 and offers lesson programs, camps and showing opportunities for children and adults from beginner to intermediate level. This tour will feature farrier Cameron Fisher, who will provide a demonstration on hoof care and trimming and horse trainer Jerry Taylor, who will demonstrate the process of desensitization to create a calm, willing equine partner. There will also be stations on saddles and equipment that is used for riding, as well as various horse care products. There will be activities for the kids such as pony cart rides and a Horseless Jump Course! Dessert will also be offered.

Learn more about the St. Johns County Horse Council and our sponsors at www.sjchc.org.

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Movie Review

Olympus Has Fallen

Directed by: Antoine Fuqua. Starring: Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart, Rick Yune and Morgan Freeman. Review by T.G. Stanton

Rating: Good Movie, Glad to Have Seen It (4 out of 5)

This month's movie review belongs to the film *Olympus Has Fallen*, an action-packed, political thriller for adults and teens to enjoy.

Presidential guard Mike Banning, portrayed by Gerard Butler, is let go after an accident ends in a fatality. He is not only disgraced, but after being close to the president and his family, he seeks time to regroup. Some months later, when walking past the White House, otherwise known as Olympus, Mike is alarmed as destruction and mayhem occur throughout the city. Few know the ultimate goal. As the attack continues directly to the doors of the capital, he realizes the family he once protected may be in danger. Terrorists have kidnapped the president, enacted by Aaron Eckhart and members of his staff; in addition, the president's son is missing.

Kang, played by Rick Yune, is the leader of the group who plan to unite Korea, utilizing weapons only those in Olympus can access. The national security team, led by Speaker of the House Trumble, performed by Morgan Freeman, races to secure not only the city, but the world. They realize their only hope may be the man who has fought his

way into the big house and also the one that knows the paths and secrets those walls contain. That man is Mike Banning and he is finding blockades to saving the president and his son, as well as avoiding a disaster that could leave the world in tatters. Will he win?

Well, through the direction of Antoine Fuqua, it seems to certainly be possible. Action and drama fill almost every scene, though the White House full of dead bodies was an interesting vision. The terrorists are well-funded and extremely skilled in combat. The evil and sociopathic behavior of Kang gives Banning all that he can handle. Rick Yune is a great villain and

looks to enjoy his work; he is definitely someone to watch in the future. Another one to watch is Finley Jacobsen, who plays Connor, the president's son. He not only manages to elude the terrorists but is cute while doing so. Aaron Eckhart handles his responsibilities as commander-in-chief well, but he may have given in a little too soon, while Morgan Freeman made stepping into the president's shoes seem easy. Now the leader of the band is of course Gerard Butler—the man has such range. From romances and comedies to playing a psychopath, he has now paved the way to be the next heroic action-figure of any film. I hope there is a sequel.



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Captain David's Fishing Report

By Captain David Lifka

The St. Johns River and its tributaries offer us over 180 different species of fish. Many of these fish are targeted by anglers for sport, table fare or both; however, the St. Johns River and its tributaries also offer us a few species of fish we'd rather not see, catch or

have to deal with. Some of these fish have been known to scare small children and adults alike, cause people to cut their lines or abandon their rods, destroy tackle and in some cases administer pain by biting or stinging their would be captor. These fish could be known as "St. Johns River Monsters."

The first of our river monsters is probably the most common. When fishing the original bite and fight often spark excitement till the fish gets close enough to be recognized and someone yells, "Stingray!" The St. Johns River stingray is actually an Atlantic stingray which is a saltwater fish that has somehow adapted to living its entire life in freshwater making it the only stingray in North America to do so. The stingray has a venomous barb located about two-thirds the way up its tail that can deliver a painful wallop if one is not careful.

The next two monsters are the bowfin (also known as a mudfish) and the Florida gar. They both share similarities in that they both date back more than 100 million years, gulp air, have sharp teeth and are voracious predators. Growing to lengths of over 30 inches, both these fish have been known to ruin a fisherman's day by wrecking his tackle or biting the hand that's trying to set them free. At first sight these fish are instantly recognized as some-

thing prehistoric. The Florida gar has a long slender armor plated appearing body with a long snout that is lined with sharp teeth, while the bowfin has an olive colored body with a long dorsal fin, rounded tail and a large mouth with sharp canine teeth.

The final river monster is the American eel which is probably more common than most anglers prefer. This particular monster can grow to five feet in length and is capable of creating a mild panic to complete hysteria when reeled in. Its beady eyes, its snapping mouth and its snakelike slimy body can send chills down a person's spine. Considered a delicacy in Asia, most here would rather cut their line than have to deal with them.

Fishing the St. Johns River or one of its tributaries can be an enjoyable way to spend a day. The fish you are fighting could be your long-awaited trophy or it could one of those fish you don't want to deal with known as a "St. Johns River Monster."

Fishing Report: Look for reds on end of docks, weakfish and croaker in holes.

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



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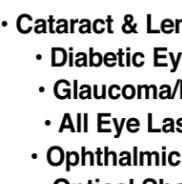
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Newcomers finish season

By Contributing Writer Marcia Smith

Newcomers of North St. Johns will hold this season's last meeting/luncheon on Tuesday, May 21 at 11:00 a.m. at Marsh Creek Country Club, located at 169 Marshside Drive in St. Augustine. The newly elected officers for 2013-14 will be installed.

Luncheon choice is chicken Florentine or roast pork Veronique both served with salad, rice, vegetable, rolls and butter, chef's dessert, ice tea, coffee or a fountain soda. A cash bar, door prizes and raffles will be offered. The cost is \$22 which includes tax and tip.

Entertainment will feature Reggie Lee who has been performing for the past 25 years. He is known throughout the Jack-

sonville area as a fantastic singer and musician. He will be performing a tribute to the sounds of yesteryear including Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Louie Armstrong, Lou Rawls, Elvis Presley and others.

Please RSVP by May 14 and note that there are no refunds. Please indicate your entree choice at the bottom of your check and mail to NNSJ, 4956 Blackhawk Dr., St. Johns, FL 32259. For additional information or questions, please email Deb at debkolasinsky@att.net.

Please mark your calendars for our next season beginning on September 17 with our meeting/luncheon to renew your club friendships!



Newcomers of North St. Johns recently had a delightful cruise on the St. Johns River aboard the Lady St. Johns, docked next to the Chart House in downtown Jacksonville. Featured here enjoying the sights along the river are Anne Hershiser, Gloria Rogers, Ninelle Ceglia, Karen Rosa and Jeanette Scanlan. Photo by Betty Neyer

Learn the Secrets to Bladder Health

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This forum is to educate women on the facts about incontinence. Contrary to popular belief, incontinence is NOT normal or an inevitable part of aging. Most cases can be treated non-surgically with lifestyle or behavioral changes, physical therapy or medication.



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Troop 280 April News

By Contributing Writer Gabe Munoz, First Class, Scribe



This has been another successful month for Troop 280. We had our Court of Honor where we handed out many merit badges and advancements—but that's nothing compared to what our scouts will earn this summer at camp Daniel Boone, where our scouts are expected to earn well over 200 merit badges, ranging anywhere from cinema-

tography to geocaching.

This month has also been special as Dalton Rust, who has been with the troop since inception, passed his Eagle Board of Review. We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Rust, who will be the first scout to earn his Eagle from start to finish with young Troop 280.

Troop 280 is a Boy Scout

Troop located in the heart of Julington Creek, sponsored by River of Life UMC on Race Track Road. The troop was founded in 2009 and has grown from five original members to now over 50. Their scoutmaster is Brian Miller.

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SPEED LIMIT 30

Lady Raiders win middle school championship

After graduating several starters from the 2012 volleyball team, the Switzerland Point Lady Raiders were thought to be in a rebuilding year for the 2013 season. But with four returning eighth graders and an outstanding seventh grade class, the Switzerland Point team did just the opposite. The team ended up winning the St. Johns County Middle School volleyball championship on March 12 against the previously undefeated powerhouse Fruit Cove Middle School.



To get to the championship, the Lady Raiders finished the regular season as the third seed (out of eight schools), with a 7 - 3 record. The Lady Raiders lost their first match of the season to Landrum and both matches to Fruit Cove. However, it was the second match against Fruit Cove where the Lady Raiders finally get the confidence they needed when they went into "overtime" against them losing 30 - 28 in game two.

Assistant Coach Jerry Shawver, Assistant Coach Katie Bennett, Kendall Sheffer, Ashleigh Sintay, Caroline Coley, Blair Register, Kayla Shawver, Ashlyn Harper, Head Coach Becky Burney, Danielle Earl, Sarah Uruburu, Reedy Davenport, manager Lauryn Wheeler, manager Chloe Andrews and Lauren Stanford.

In the playoffs, the Lady Raiders beat the sixth seed Gamble Rogers and then beat the second seed Landrum in an exciting three game match. This set up the championship, the undefeated Fruit Cove volleyball team against the 7-3 Switzerland Point team.

Register, Kayla Shawver, and Danielle Earl to Bartram Trail next year, the Lady Raiders are looking forward to another great season with several sixth and seventh graders returning to the team.

Playing in front of a packed house at Fruit Cove Middle School, the Lady Raiders played at the highest level that they had played all season, beating Fruit Cove (25 - 17, 25 - 17) in just two games. Caroline Coley, Blair Register, Danielle Earl and Reedy Davenport led the offense, with Lauren Stanford and Kendall Sheffer setting them up for the kills. Kayla Shawver, Ashleigh Sintay and Lauren Stanford also served their best games of the season leading to the victory.

While the Lady Raiders will be losing Lauren Stanford, Blair

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Faith News

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church (OLGC) will serve their annual "All You Can Eat" fried chicken dinner on Friday, May 17 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The dinner will include mashed potatoes and gravy, seasoned vegetables, cole slaw and bread. Homemade desserts and beverages will also be available. The donation for an adult dinner is \$10 or \$4 for kids under the age of seven. Dinners are available for take out or eat in. The Church is located at 5950 State Road 16 in St. Augustine. The dinner is being sponsored by the OLGC Men's Club and the Ladies' Guild and all proceeds go to the future use of the various ministries and continued church development.

Faith Community Church, located at 3450 County Road 210 West, announces their Vacation Bible School for kids who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. The VBS will be held June 10 through June 14 in the evening from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. You can register online at www.fcctoday.com or call the church office for more information at 287-3223.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversations about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. The discussion topics in May are: May 14 and 15: "When Love Hurts: Ending the Cycle of Domestic Violence"; May 21 and 22: "How to Live Before You Die: Embracing Life to the Fullest"; and May 28 and 29: "The Majesty and Mystery of Nature"—Celebrate nature and examine the impact of human interaction. Come join the conversations. Lifetree Cafe is held Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. at Mandarin Senior Center (limited to those over age 60) and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church (open to everyone). Find out more about topics and location by calling George Treiber at 731-0731. Admission is free. Check us out at www.LTCHopeJAX.com.

The next **Conversation Café** will be held Thursday, May 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the topic, "Social Media and Your Teen" is a timely one. If you are a parent or grandparent of a teen or pre-teen, you won't want to miss this informative panel presentation which

will feature an attorney, an expert in social media and a law enforcement officer. The Conversation Café is a series of health-related topics, sponsored by Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS). We meet at JFCS, located at 6261 Dupont Station Court, East. The series is free, but RSVPs are required as we provide lunch. For more information, please contact hhill@jfcjax.org or 394-5782.

If you ever spent time in the **Catskills**, you know that those memories stay with you forever. Believe it or not, there are many people in Northeast Florida who have a Catskills' connection. Some grew up in this unique New York state area, others vacationed or worked in the famed hotels or bungalow colonies, still others attended summer camp in one of 50 small hamlets. Are you connected to the Catskills? If so, please contact us so we can let you know of our upcoming activities. A nostalgic program is in the works and volunteers are needed. To be placed on the mailing list or serve as a volunteer for the next program, please contact Mimi Kaufman at 880-4014 or Isabel Balotin at catskillgal@comcast.net or join us on Facebook: "I had the time of my life in the Catskills."



Vacation Bible School

Kids who've completed K – 5th Grade

June 10th –14th

6:00 pm—8:30 pm

June 16th at 10 am

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Purposeful Parenting

"Happy Mother" Day

By Allie Olsen

Happy Mother's Day! I hope you enjoyed a relaxing day celebrating family and motherhood. I hope whether you received handwritten cards and weed bouquets or Claude's Chocolate and dinner out, you felt loved by your sweet family.

Tell me, did you have well-wishers telling you "You deserve a day off! You just need to get away!" Or maybe, "I just don't know how you do it. I couldn't have juggled all that."

Most of the time, these friends are trying to compliment moms on the monumental task of teaching, training and loving our precious children while also juggling daily responsibilities. In spite of their good intentions, however, I often find myself feeling suddenly dissatisfied or overburdened after receiving these comments.

"How do I do it all," I ask myself, "and why? I really should have received a house cleaning and laundry service for Mother's Day. And roses for putting my hubby first when I'm so tired. And dinner out. Yeah, and I think I should get away from it all... maybe a girls weekend is in order..."

Don't you wish our thoughts came with a warning light and bell like the van does? When I try to drive with a door open, the alarm dings and light on the dash flashes. Good news... you can cultivate a warning alarm in your thought life!

Philippians 4:11 says, "I have learned to be content whatever the situation is." It

is not fake to say something positive when you would like to sit in the corner and pout. It is having self-control.

I've learned to talk to myself instead of listen to myself. So when I start to whine in my mind, I pray for self-control and intentionally change my focus.

Instead of: "Every other mom at church today was going out for lunch and here I am making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Just great."

I should say: "It'll be fun to have a picnic in the backyard for Mother's Day! I'll slice some strawberries to go with the PB&Js and make a pot of raspberry iced tea for a cool treat. I'll ask the girls to take a blanket out and decorate for a celebration!"

While that sounds so... perfect... so Suzy Homemaker... so fake, I will argue that we have a lot of control over our attitudes and we mamas need to teach our children and ourselves to be content.

I hope you had a very happy Mother's Day. I know some days being a mamma offers as many challenges as it does joys. But I also see the beautiful rewards of sowing biblical principles into our children. My gift to you this Mother's Day would be prayers for you to love your family by giving the gift of self-control. Love them by choosing joy, kindness and patience. I pray every day is a Happy Mother day.

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CHS Sports Roundup

By Kassie Solms, CHS Student

Sunshine is finally starting to shine down on the Sunshine State this month, as we near the end of our 2012-2013 school year. As we start approaching flip-flop-wearing weather, our athletes at Creekside High School are giving their cleats, sneakers and sporting equipment a little rest as the spring sports come to an end. The Knights have without a doubt ended the 2013 spring season with quiet a bang, as well as the rest of the year! Many of our teams have managed to advance to regional and state finals. Way to go Knights!

A quick shout out to the varsity girls softball team. They played a great season this year, ranking in the top four in the state of Florida for most of the season. They have recently moved up to the next round of districts and we are all excited to see how far they will go this year as a team.

Congratulations to all those who competed in states for track and field. All of the runners worked extremely hard to get to where they are. After going through some tough competition at districts and regionals, the athletes really got to show their true athleticism at this year's state meet.

On May 10, the Athletic Department held their annual Running of the Nights. Not only did participants get the

chance to run centipede chains in the 5K, but could also show off their school spirit! The Running of the Knights offers both a 5K and a one-mile fun run. After the running races, there were tons of fun games, activities, blow ups, music and great food to indulge in. Not only does the race work to sponsor our school's athletic programs with new equipment for the following year, but also, it brings community awareness about the mission of Creekside. It is a great time for families to come out and get to experience the family of knights that they can one day be a part of or maybe once were. Thank you, to all that were a sponsor and made the event a great success!

As you may have heard,

last month the Knights were deeply saddened to hear about the loss of one of our assistant basketball coaches, Alicia Gladden. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, friends and teammates. The girls will always remember how Coach Gladden motivated and inspired their game of play.

With this season and year finally wrapped up, we can begin to map out our next game plan. Motivated by all the new experiences, losses and successes, the Knights are ready to face whatever comes next. I think we may even climb Mount Everest just to get there, we're that motivated! All I have to say to our rivals is, game on.

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BTHS Sports Roundup

By Megan Grant, BTHS Student

It's time for the spring football game! Every year, the Bartram Trail Bears play the Flagler Palm Coast Bulldogs with the same competitive fire they had in the fall season. This gives the upcoming seniors, juniors and sophomores a chance to get a feel for what their team will be like next school year. Players that were on the junior varsity football team in the fall can get the opportunity of being pulled up to play in the game as well. It can also be a time for anyone who wasn't on the team in the fall to tryout and become a part of the Bear family.

Although this year's seniors don't get to play in the game, they play a big role with assisting at spring practices and posing as role models for the underclassmen who look up to them. It's a big brother kind of idolism that is seen from the younger boys, who will be taking spots of big players graduating this year and moving on to play college ball.

To prepare for their competition, the boys have a week of training called "Blue Dawn" to whip them back into shape. This consists of before school workouts and intense conditioning. Although it's challenging to get back into the rhythm of practices, the players have been eager to get back on the field and in the game. The game will take place on Friday, May 24, at Flagler Palm Coast High School.

The spring season is also an ample time for college recruiting. Coaches are allowed to come and observe the football players at their practices and in the spring game. This opens up a great deal of opportunity for players wanting to compete at the next level in the future.

Another annual event taking place at Bartram Trail soon is the juniors vs. seniors powder puff game. The two clubs at school, "Junior Ladies" and "Senior Women" compete in a fun but competitive game of flag football. A few junior and senior boys from the football team coach each team of girls. With practices and class spirit building the suspense for the upcoming game, the girls are thrilled to get to participate and go for the win. The game will take place at Bartram on Wednesday, May 22.

As the school year starts to wind down, so do the athletics at Bartram and the black and blue family begins to look forward to summer training and try outs for the year to come.

New K-8 School "HH" (Prototype K-8)

The district's newest school design for a prototype K-8 is complete. The construction contract was awarded in February and construction has begun. This new K-8 prototype school will include 58 classrooms and 1,210 student stations. The school will be constructed to Green Building Standards and is located in the northwest area of a county within the Durbin Crossing development. K-8 School "HH" is scheduled to be open for the 2014-2015 school year.



Nease Sports Roundup

By Elena Castello, Nease Student

As the end of the year approaches, sports are coming to a close at Nease. The final sports, tennis, baseball, track and field, softball and lacrosse, have had great seasons. But all good things must come to an end and with celebration banquets, these athletes will be rewarded for their hard work.

Tennis districts ended with the girls' team and boys' team placing third overall, which unfortunately means they do not qualify to move on. It was an adjusting year; however, with their new coach settled and the team losing only two senior girls, the team is ready for the challenges for next year.

Lacrosse girls got to the finals in districts; however, Ponte Vedra High School proved themselves the champions again, but in the close game, the girls finished second in the district. Five girls, Nikki Dalton, Marina Carcaba, Jenna Smith, Blake Forrest and Jessica

Bergin, committed to various schools to play lacrosse in college. Their parents and of course new coach Missy Jaworski couldn't be more proud of them, overcoming challenges, meeting victories and fulfilling their dreams of playing the sport they love.

The baseball team is conference champions and went to the district championship game. The boys have a good chance of being champions, against Pedro Menendez. This game will determine whether the boys go on to States.

Softball had a difficult season this year, but not one that cannot be overcome next year. Four seniors will leave the team, but have entrusted the younger girls to intense practices, good morale, and a strong sense of teamwork.

Track and field did extremely well in districts, with the girls winning runners up and the boys placing in top 10.

Ceolamar Ways led the team as the only boy to make it out of districts.

Although the sports at Nease have come to an end, the athletes that strive to be the best they can be will continue to train and work hard. The seniors will be missed and new opportunities will be opened for those who rise to the occasion. Go Panthers!

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CHS girls' lacrosse finishes successful season

By Contributing Writer Mona Mangor



Varsity team

Congratulations to the Creekside Knights girls' lacrosse teams on their outstanding seasons! The JV team finished the year with a record of 9-2, including wins over Orlando rivals Olympia, Hagerty and University High Schools. The varsity team wrapped up the regular season with a record of 14-2 and remained ranked in the top 10 in Florida throughout the entire season. Highlights included victories over Jensen Beach, Hagerty, and Olympia and the first victory over Bartram Trail in school history.

The team graduates five seniors, including captains JC Householder, Kelly McCormack and Gabby Norkus.

The Knights also spent a considerable amount of the off season dedicated to helping others by participating in over 206 hours of community service with organizations such as the Wounded Warrior Proj-

ect, Field of Dreams and JCP CARES. Go Knights!

The Creekside High School girls' lacrosse team would like to thank and recognize the following for their time and support during the 2013 spring lacrosse season:

- All the parents of the players
- Varsity head coach, Amy Purcell
- Varsity assistant coach, Jamie Donnelly
- Junior varsity head coach, Jeff Greenert
- Junior varsity assistant coach, Alyssa Greenert
- Principal, Randy Johnson
- Athletic Department director, Guy Harris
- Athletic Department trainer, Ryan Boyer
- Athletic Department secretary, Tina Northcut
- Team liaison, Jamie Godfrey
- Varsity manager, Mark Mengel
- JV manager, Lizzie Rockefeller
- Team Mom/volunteer coordinator, Fonda Mosal

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- Pre-game meals coordinators, Susan Zyserman and Amy Cerino
- Announcers, James Farris and Reb Dunn
- Stats, Caryn Greenert and Joe McCormack
- Fundraising coordinator/ Banquet coordinator, Lisa Beasley
- Booster Club liaison /Apparel sales, Jim Dwyer
- Bennett Landscaping and Maintenance, Blair Bennett
- Lawlis Designs, Steve Norkus
- 210 Family Chiropractic, Augustin Oliveira

Julington Academy of Martial Arts students Summer Beckett, Jake Lockwood and Sarah Hussein recently competed in a Tae Kwon Do tournament in Atlanta, Georgia and qualified to go to the Junior Olympics! The 2013 Junior Olympics will be held in Detroit, Michigan this July. Congratulations and good luck!



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National Safe Boating week kickoff event

Commander David Patrick of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-7 has announced that St. Augustine's observance this year of National Safe Boating Week (May 18 through 24) will commence with a multi-agency kickoff event to be held at the Vilano Boat Ramp on Saturday, May 18, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The St. Johns County Unified Marine Response Consortium will be participating with the United States Coast Guard in a public outreach event for National Safe Boating Week.

Flotilla 14-7 will present a boating safety outreach activity exhibit combined with a Vessel Safety Check station offering free safety checks to assist the boating public in identifying safety and legal deficiencies on their boats so that they may correct those deficiencies before running afoul of enforcement agencies.

The event will also feature marine flare demonstrations,

CPR demonstrations and fire-fighting demonstrations as well as static boat displays presented by the other agencies of the consortium, an organization formed to promote, coordinate and evaluate marine search and rescue efforts on the waterways of St. Johns County. Anticipated agencies displaying boats are the United States Coast Guard, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, St. Johns County Fire-Rescue,

City of St. Augustine Police and Fire Departments, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and United States Customs Border Protection.

Members of the general public as well as the boating public are invited to come and observe up close the safety, rescue and interdiction equipment regularly in service on our St. Johns County waterways.



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Kathryn Auldridge, a senior at Bishop Kenny High School, formally committed to play soccer at Baldwin Wallace University. After visiting several campuses and weighing several offers, she chose Baldwin Wallace University for its high quality of academics and strong soccer program. BVU is located in Berea, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Auldridge has lived in seven states and two different cities in Germany before moving to Florida as a junior. She and her parents, John D. Auldridge II and Stephanie Skelley, now live in Fruit Cove. Auldridge has enjoyed playing for BKHS coach Scott Thomas and JYSC coach Marc Osterberger. She and the Yellow Jackets look forward to winning at least one NCAA Division III championship over the next four years.

VFA announces registration

By Contributing Writer Jason Bird, President, Villages Football Association

Villages Football Association (VFA) is now registering for the fall tackle football and cheerleading season. Registration is open to all children ages five and up. VFA is a member of the St. Johns River Youth

Football Conference, a United Youth Football affiliate. We offer competitive football and cheerleading to all of the World Golf Village and surrounding areas.

Tackle football is age based with no weight restrictions; everyone plays! Divisions are split into age appropriate groups per conference regulations and minimum play rules apply. For the young kids, our six and under division is an excellent opportunity for the very youngest aspiring football players to learn the basics in smaller size teams with an eight-on-eight format. The no weight class system allows for more realistic and safer game play while preparing players for the next level of play in middle and high school.

We are especially proud of our national award winning cheerleading program. After local competition, our both of our 2012 age divisions went on to compete in the UYFL national competition. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the children and coaches, our United 6 cheer squad won second place in their division and our United 9 squad won first place! This was the third straight year of sending a team to represent us at national competitions.

Practices for both football and cheerleading for the upcoming season begin in July with regular season games running from August through October with opportunity for post season play for qualifying teams. Registration fees are \$195 for first child and \$175 per each additional child. Please visit www.vfapanthers.org/ to register or for more information on our programs. You may also contact info@vfapanthers.org.

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Loggerheads host swim meet

By Contributing Writer Lorraine Herreros

On April 13 the JCLA Loggerhead Swim Team hosted their "5 x 5" spring meet at the Julington Creek Plantation Recreation Center competition pool. Visiting teams in attendance included the Spartan Aquatic Club, Beaches



Aquatic Club, Planet Swim Aquatics, High Tide Aquatics, and the YMCA of Florida's First Coast. While the swimmers and coaches concentrated on turning out spectacular performances in the pool, dozens of Loggerhead parents volunteered behind the scenes to make sure the meet ran smoothly. By all accounts, the meet was a great success, with many visiting teams expressing interest in returning next year.

Each swimmer at the "5 x 5" competed in five individual events with the top point scorer in each age group earning a medal and the title of High Point Winner. Loggerhead High Point Winners included Olivia Moore for the 6 and under girls, 8-year-olds Emma Revels and Aidan Paro, 9-year-olds Anna Moore and Nicky Tayag, Meghan Shaffer for the 10-year-

old girls, Summer Stanfield for the 11-year-old girls, 12-year-old Aubrey Miller, 13-year-old Eleanor Pollitt and 14-year-olds Jane Wadhams and Carter Strickland. In the "open" category JCLA High Point Winners were 17-year-olds Caitlyn Johnson and John Brennock. Super swimming, Loggerheads!

Outside of the pool, Loggerheads enjoyed their annual team banquet on April 25. Swimmers, coaches and parents gathered at Cunningham Creek Elementary to celebrate the past season, recognize outstanding achievements and have an all around great time on dry land. A highlight of the event was watching the team videos compiled from various events throughout the year and set to music.

Currently the team is training hard and looking to excel in the 2013 long course season!

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Mosquito Control District gains international recognition with workshop

By Karl Kennell



Director Dr. Rui-De Xue, Commissioner Vivian Browning, Commissioner Catherine Brandhorst, Dr. Greg Hodges, Bureau Chief, DACS/DPI, Commissioner Jeanne Moeller and Commissioner Janice Bequette.

Mosquito control is usually a subject that comes to mind only when swatting away the pesky critters. It never crosses your mind when enjoying a beautiful summer evening without a mosquito in sight; however, mosquitoes were the subject of focus of the recent 10th annual Arbovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Workshop hosted by Anastasia Mosquito Control District (AMCD). The workshop is one of only three world-wide that brings over 150 professionals from around the globe together to discuss and share strategies for handling these pesky and dangerous insects.

The conference covers three days with a different focus each day. The first day began with morning panel sessions moderated by Dr. Rui-De Xue, director of AMCD and Dr. Dan Kline, research entomologist, USDA/ CMAVE. Subjects covered a variety of subjects including West Nile Virus, customized mosquito control and many others like "genotyping of Aedes albopictus species from Florida" and "the resurgence of Aedes aegypti in northeast Florida." The afternoon session covered arbovirus and malaria.

That evening there was a dinner and lecture for all the

tology and Plant Pathology. His speech included a very interesting presentation of the many invasive plants, animals and insects attacking the ecosystem of Florida.

Day two included morning sessions on biology, attractant/repellent and larval/adult control and resistance. The afternoon was devoted to programs, public relations and legislation. On the final day the subjects were other pests, vectors and methods along with technology and new products.

The presenters and attendees made up a "Who's Who" of entomologists from around the world. In addition to representatives from universities and organizations from around the USA and Canada, there were representatives from the Food and

Environmental Hygiene Department, Hong Kong, China and the Department of vector Control and Disinfection, Jiangsu CDC, Nanjing, China and other international organizations.

These annual Arbovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Workshops bring to the First Coast international recognition for AMCD as a leader in the control of the very dangerous and pesky mosquito. The expenses for the workshop are 100 percent covered by the fees paid by the attendees. Of special note is the benefit that it provides to the staff of AMCD in continuing education requirements. By participating each year, AMCD saves thousands in continuing education expenses. With this one workshop, the entire staff accomplishes their requirements.

If you want to learn more about Anastasia Mosquito Control District visit www.amcdsjc.org. After all enjoying that summer evening pest free is the culmination of education and efforts learned from collaborations like these that are carried through to practice.

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