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September 2014

More students again this year for St. Johns County schools



These Julington Creek Elementary School friends are enjoying the first day of school!

The student count for the St. Johns County School District (SJCS) on opening day, August 18, 2014, was 31,671, an increase of 1,168 students or

3.8 percent over last year's first day number of 30,503. During the past six years when many districts have seen sustained or declining enrollment, St. Johns

County has continued to be one of the fastest growing counties in the state.

The high school student
More students cont. on pg. 16

Local group joins fight against Ebola epidemic

By Karl Kennell

Shelly Timbol and her husband Tony have lived in Julington Creek Plantation since 1995, raising two daughters to adulthood and becoming connected in the community. In 2010 her life's focus would dramatically change direction, as through church relationships, she began missionary work. She made annual trips to Liberia, West Africa with the idea of bringing lay-counselor training to women who had survived 14 years of brutal civil war. Since 2010 Timbol has made a total of six trips. Her experiences have now led her to start a non-profit called Empower Women Leaders (EWL), for which she serves as executive director. EWL is governed by a talented group of board members and has received 501c3 status. A major focus of EWL has been teaching numerous conferences throughout the country of Liberia.

One of the greatest needs according to the World Health Organization (WHO), Doctors Without Borders, Samaritan's Purse and

other reliable sources is to have disinfectant available for people to wash their hands and protect themselves from the spread of the Ebola virus. So many in Liberia, where the daily wage averages \$1.25, do not have the ability to purchase disinfectant.

In response to this crisis, EWL is implementing the "Women's Bucket Brigade Project." The purpose of this project is two-fold. EWL's first mission is to provide women in West Africa who have no resources with buckets and disinfectants to help kill the Ebola virus, then empower those women with the
EWL cont. on pg. 29



The bucket brigade

See page 33!

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67 cadets graduate from Nease NJROTC training

By Contributing Writer Carol Blair

Sixty-seven incoming Nease High School freshmen completed a rigorous six-day Navy Junior ROTC military indoctrination training program,

culminating in a formal graduation ceremony on August 5. The program, known as BCT, which stands for Basic Cadet Training, is designed to jump start the incoming freshmen's JROTC training. The cadets learn how to wear their military uniforms, how to march in formation, military customs and courtesies, as well as undergo intensive

physical fitness training.

Upper class cadets instruct all phases of the training program under the guidance and supervision of the three NJROTC naval science instructors.

On the final day of the program, cadets received a tour of the P-8 Poseidon Aircraft at NAS Jacksonville, followed by a formal graduation ceremony culminating with a pinning ceremony with the cadets' parents pinning on the collar device rank of E-2 on their cadets' uniforms.

Cadets Sydney Washington and Lily Short were selected as the top Honor Graduates – an award given to the cadets with the highest academic and physical fitness average during the training.



Cadet Cali Vaughn briefs incoming NS1 cadets on NJROTC standards at BCT

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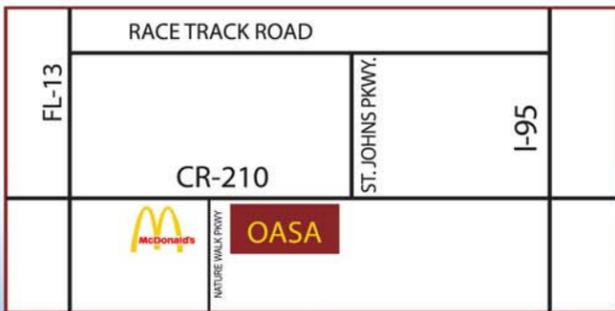
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What's New

Do you have community or club news you would like included in The CreekLine?

Then contact Martie Thompson at: editor@thecreekline.com or 886-4919.

Community Happenings

James R. Schock, St. Johns County Floodplain Manager and Plans Examiner, is presenting a series of workshops in September at St. Johns County Libraries to provide information regarding flood risk and mitigation strategies. During the free workshops he will assist the public in using the county website to find what flood area they may be in, the value of flood insurance, and any mitigation that may be possible. The workshops will occur from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Hastings Library on September 12, the Bartram Trail Library on September 16, the Main Library on September 17, the Southeast

Library on September 22, the Anastasia Library on September 23 and the Ponte Vedra Branch Library September 26. Please visit www.sjcpls.org for a list of library locations and for more information about the workshops, please contact Schock at 827-6806 or jschock@sjcfl.us.

The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a **Public Hearing on the State Road 9B Extension from County Road 2209** (St. Johns Parkway) to Interstate 95 on Monday, September 15. The meeting will be held at The Courtyard by Marriott, located at 14402 Old St. Augustine Road. The Open House will be from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. with the presentation and comment period beginning at 6:30 p.m.

You and up to three of your "vintage treasures" are invited to an **Antique Appraisal Fair** on Saturday, September 20, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Professional appraisers will be on hand to appraise your items and perhaps tell you something amazing about them. A donation of \$5 per item is requested to benefit the William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway. Volunteers from the highway's Corridor Management Council (CMC) will serve coffee and light refreshments and will have a bake sale. The fun all happens in RiverTown's Community Amenity Center, located at 39 Riverwalk Boulevard in St. Johns, just south of Alpine Groves Park on State Road 13. Please call the CMC at 703-9142 if you have questions.

On Saturday, September 20, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., the GTM Research Reserve will host the local efforts of the **International Coastal Cleanup Day**. The event will take place at the Environmental Education Center, located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach and the Marineland Field Office, located at 9741 Oceanshore Boulevard. For more information, please call 823-4500 or visit www.gtmnerr.org.

The **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** presents Dr. Patricia Gill explaining the amendments that Florida voters will decide on the November ballot at the meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 7 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Main Library Branch of the St. Johns County Library, located at 1960 North Ponce De Leon Boulevard in St. Augustine. Information provided will be nonpartisan. Gill is the unit chair of the League of Women Voters. AAUW St. Augustine Branch is providing this public meeting as part of the It's My Vote I Will Be Heard campaign to encourage voters to go to the polls. The three amendments concern water and land conservation funds, medical use of marijuana and prospective appointment of judicial vacancies. The full text can be found at the St. Johns County Supervisor of Election website, votesjc.com. Voters may also review their ballots at this site. For additional information, please call Lee Rouland at 826-3577 or visit <https://staugustine-fl.aauw.net>.

The St. Johns County Extension Office would like to invite local vendors with home and garden products to participate in the **2014 St. Johns County Home and Garden Show and Datil Pepper Festival**. It will be held the weekend of October 4 and 5 at the St. Johns County Agriculture Center, located at 3125 Agriculture Center Drive. Consider

participating in this local event. It may expose your business to a broader audience and make individuals aware that you support local community activities. If you would like to reserve a space in the show, please call 209-0430 for further information.

The **Garden Club of Switzerland** is holding a welcome meeting at the Bartram Trail Library on Thursday, September 11, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Our October 9 meeting will feature Malea Guiriba from Hastings Pie in the Sky farm-to-table initiative. Our second-Thursday-of-the-month meetings cover topics such as keeping orchids, healthy trees and succulents. Guests are welcome and membership is encouraged. Please see our website, www.switzerlandgc.org, for venues and highlights.

Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to homebound seniors in the St. Augustine area on Mondays and in the Fruit Cove area on alternate Wednesday mornings. We also need a volunteer to deliver Meals in the Hastings area on Fridays. Volunteers are needed in the Minor Repair Program particularly in the Ponte Vedra and Fruit Cove areas. These are simple jobs only and training is available. All material is provided. Work on your own schedule! To volunteer or for more information, please call Ginny Draper or Elise Moloney at 209-3686 or email gdraper@stjohnscoa.com or emoloney@stjohnscoa.com.

Cancer, a disease that affects millions worldwide, is a disease that must be defeated. **Relay for Life of Bartram Trail** is presently seeking motivated volunteers to help our committee make 2015's Relay a huge success. If you are interested, please contact Kelly Blount, event chair at kctwin-sx2@bellsouth.net. Additionally, you can join the battle against cancer by developing and regis-

tering a team (no registration fee) at our website, bartramrelay.com. Please contact Becky Kimball at greglbeckyl@bellsouth.net for more details. Join us in our battle to defeat cancer!

The **North Florida Acoustic Neuroma Support Group** will meet on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at Mandarin United Methodist Church, located at 11270 San Jose Boulevard. Please call 287-8132 for additional information.

The **Rotary Club of St. Johns** meets at the St. Johns Golf and Country Club clubhouse on Friday mornings from 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. Members come from most communities along County Road 210 and Race Track Road. For additional information, please contact Tony Lego at tlego@ercsaves.com or visit www.rotarystjohns.org.

"Once a Rainbow Girls **Always a Rainbow Girl!**" past, present and prospective sisters homecoming will be held on September 20 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Ashlar Lodge, located at 105 King Street in St. Augustine. Please join us for a walk down memory lane, and a chance to get to know more about the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. For additional information, please contact a momkathleen8@gmail.com.

Adults and teens age 14 and older are invited to attend the **Project Lap Blanket** crochet group at the Bartram Trail Branch Library, which will meet on Tuesday, September 16, Tuesday, September 23 and Tuesday, September 30 beginning at 6:00 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

What's New cont. on pg. 8



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At RT Publishing we welcome Letters to the Editor. We request they be no more than 250 words. All letters must include writer's name, address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published. E-mail to editor@thecreekline.com. Anonymously sent letters will not be published.



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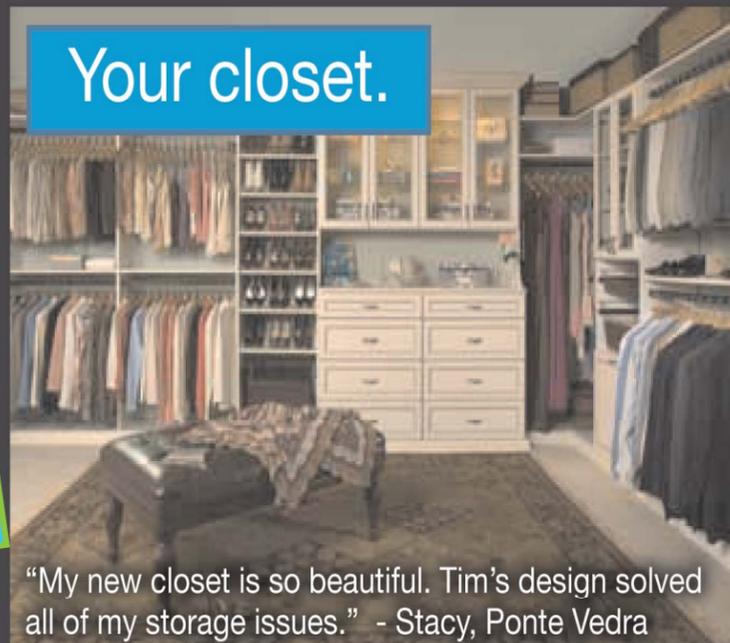
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From the Commissioner's Desk

By Contributing Writer Cyndi Stevenson, County Commissioner, District 1

Where do you get the information you need about St. Johns County?

In the absence of information, rumors abound. Most of the time and money spent on communication about the county comes from political parties and candidates where the goal is getting elected, not providing information and having substantive discussions about real issues. I am grateful to The CreekLine for the opportunity to do just that and I thank you for taking the time to read these articles and connecting to what is going on in your county.

Improving communications and transparency has been an important goal of mine since I was elected in 2004. Several years ago, it became a primary goal of the entire Board of County Commission. With the support of the board, so much more is being accomplished in this area! Here are some ways

that we now provide access to information to you so that St. Johns County has a more open and accountable county government.

Government TV content has been enhanced and it is now available online. Not able to come to County Commission meetings? Meetings can be viewed on cable TV channels and now you can watch them on demand over the internet at www.sjcfl.us. Just click the GTV button on the right hand side of the home page to view the current broadcast or review past meetings. Under the archive feature, you can view specific agenda items that interest you. When you want more information about an issue that has come before the commissioners, use this option and you can see it for yourself.



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Your county website is www.sjcfl.us and thanks to the diligent effort of county staff, it is getting better every day! While we have won two national awards for the transparency and completeness of our website, what really matters is your opinion—so give me some feedback!

I urge you to visit www.sjcfl.us today and do three things:

1) Get the new information about your Evacuation Zone and prepare an emergency plan for your family, business and pets. Under the Department tab choose Emergency Management-It is Hurricane Season.

2) Sign up for the District 1 County Commissioner Email Newsletter by clicking the Connect with SJC link. The Commissioner Newsletters come out quarterly. There are other ways to connect to SJC at this link; check them out.

3) Visit the Development Tracker Map under the Growth Management Department. This is where you can find out more about active zoning and land use activities in the county.

Not on the internet? Then don't miss the county inserts in your Trim and Property tax notices. Twice a year our tax collector, Dennis Hollingsworth mails notices to all St. Johns County taxpayers and for several years the county has used this mailing to provide an additional page of information about your county government.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your elected representative. I welcome your calls and emails as well as opportunities to speak to community groups. We are here to serve and hearing from you helps us make better decisions on your behalf.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 209-0301 or bccd.1@sjcfl.us.

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Your Vote Counts!

By Contributing Writer Vicky Oakes, St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections

I would like to encourage every St. Johns County voter to share in one of the most important rights we celebrate as Americans—the right to vote. Our communities are stronger when everyone participates in the election process and that means voting.

Did you miss the Primary Election? Are you satisfied with the results and the local officials who were elected in the Primary? Voter turnout in St. Johns County was disappointing. I know we can do better!

The Primary is behind us, so it's time to move on and prepare for the next election, which is the General Election scheduled for November 4.

The deadline to register to vote for the General Election is October 6. Voter registration forms are available online on our website. You can also register to vote at your local Tax Collectors Office and at all public libraries. Need a form? Simply call our office and we will mail you one.

Use the convenient tools available on our website www.votesjc.com to verify your voter registration or update your address. It's important that you keep your address current with the Elections Office as we will be mailing out a sample ballot to each registered voter before the General Election to help you prepare.

Voting has never been easier than it is today. Anyone can request an absentee ballot and vote by mail. There will be two weeks of early voting for the General Election, from October 20 through November 1. Your precinct is always open on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

My staff and I are here to serve you and we will make it easy for you to vote. Please visit our office, call or use our online forms and resources to help you prepare for Election Day. Please call 823-2238 or visit www.votesjc.com and let us know how we can assist you.

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School District Journal

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

The 2014-15 school year is off to a rousing start. While the district was expecting additional growth, we were surprised to welcome 1,500 more students than our initial projections. Different from other years is the distribution of the students. For the past several years, the vast majority of the growth centered in the northern parts of the county. This year, we are experiencing growth throughout the district. Numbers were up 4.85 percent of the opening day last school year and we are anticipating that we will top 35,000 students. Even though the growth was higher than expected, we have been able to hire excellent teachers at all our school sites. Classroom space is at a premium right now, but because of the associate teacher model that we have used for the last several years, we have been able to create slightly larger classes with two certified teachers to address the learning needs of our children. As I visited 14 schools on the first day of school, I found students already actively engaged in learning. I anticipate another stellar year of

academic achievement for our children.

Our district embarked on a one-to-one technology device pilot in seven of our schools this year, in selected grades. The decision was made to use iPads for kindergarten through second grade and laptop devices for older children. With the change in statewide assessments requiring essay responses to questions which will be completed online, our children need the additional experience with keyboarding beginning at an earlier age, so our older students will have laptops for their online instruction. Use of these devices will also better prepare them for college and career readiness. Our plan is to expand the one to one opportunities for students as funding will allow. As you may recall, beginning next school year, at least 50 percent of our instructional materials allocation must be spent on technology-based materials. Therefore, it is imperative that we expand the accessibility of computers for our students.

September 16 is the final public hearing prior to the

setting of the millage rate for school taxes this year. I am happy to say that the proposal includes a slight reduction of the rate by 0.202 mills. The vast majority of the millage is defined by the state in the form of required local effort, the amount that the School Board must levy in order to receive state funding. Our Board does have the ability to reduce the amount of capital outlay millage we levy, but these are the dollars we use for school construction, so we are compelled to assess the entire 1.5 mills allowed by law. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the public hearing on September 16, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at 40 Orange Street in St. Augustine. A final determination will be

made concerning the amount of the levy at this meeting.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the voters of District 1 for choosing to elect me for a fourth term to our School Board. With the challenges of new academic standards, new assessments, high growth and the anticipation of replacing Dr. Joyner in 2017, I believe that

experience is essential in this next term. I appreciate those of you who took the time to vote in the primary election and your confidence in me as your School Board representative.

Thank you for your commitment to public education. If I may serve you in anyway, please contact me at Beverly. Slough@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

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Child Passenger Safety Week is September 14 - 20

Child Passenger Safety Week in St. Johns County will feature a multi-agency child safety event at the St. Johns County Pier in St. Augustine Beach. St. Johns County Tax Collector Dennis W. Hollingsworth, CFC and his Project Buckle Up team will host a child safety seat checkup event at the Pier, located at 350 A1A Beach Boulevard, on Thursday, September 18, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Nationally certified Child Passenger Safety technicians will be on hand to assist parents with the inspection and proper installation of child safety seats. No appointment is necessary.

Additionally, this year our event will include representatives from other government agencies involved in efforts to keep children safe. The St. Augustine Beach Police Department will be present to provide child safety tips and assist the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office with Operation Medicine Cabinet, accepting prescription and over-the-counter medications that have expired or are no longer needed. All medications should be in original containers, even if personal information

is on them. The containers will be retained in locked compartments until incinerated under the watch of SJSO personnel. For more information, please call 209-1551. The St. Augustine Fire Department will conduct a demonstration to measure the heat in a vehicle to show how quickly temperatures can become dangerous -or even deadly -to unattended children and pets. St. Johns County Fire-Rescue will be present with a fire engine for children to view as well as fire hats and safety information. Additional agencies may be present as well.

Child Passenger Safety Week events also will include a fundraising effort at all five branch office locations to support the mission of Project Buckle Up. In existence for more than a decade, Project Buckle Up provides free child passenger safety assistance to parents and caregivers. The program also offers discounted car seats to qualified St. Johns County parents in financial need. Project Buckle Up is sponsored in part by a grant from State Farm.

For more information, please visit www.sjctax.us or call 209-2250.

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The Sheriff Reports

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

Back to school safety

This month I would like to remind all of our citizens as well as visitors that schools went back in session late last month which means that our children are going to and from school daily. I would ask all of you to take extra time and be extremely careful in school zones as well as at bus stops. In heavy traffic areas, motorists should plan on longer commutes and follow the speed limit in school zones. Deputies will be at school zones throughout the county to monitor those zones and to address any violations accordingly. Drivers need to be advised that speeding fines are doubled if they occur in a school zone. Deputies will also be in unmarked vehicles seeking any motorists who pass stopped school buses while loading or unloading students. Remember all traffic in both directions must come to a complete stop for school buses that are stopped, displaying the "stop" signal. Motorists traveling in the opposite direction are exempt from stopping if the roadway is separated by a median of at least five feet wide. These infractions will be strictly enforced.

Motorists are also reminded to take extra precaution at school bus stops where eager youngsters, many riding the bus for the first time, may dart into the street as the bus arrives. Here are some safety rules to pass along to children that ride a school bus.

Arrive at your bus stop at least five minutes early and stand at least 10 feet away from

the roadway. Be sure to wait until the bus stops, the door opens and the bus driver says it's all right to enter before stepping onto the bus. Be careful that clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps or dangling objects do not get caught in the handrail or door when exiting the bus. Walk in front of the bus, never behind the bus. Remember if you can't see the bus driver, he or she cannot see you. After getting off the school bus, stop at the edge of the bus and look both ways before crossing. If you were to drop something beside the bus, make sure to tell the driver before attempting to pick it up.

Students who walk to school should do so on a sidewalk if it is available. If there is no sidewalk, students should walk against the flow of traffic and be sure to cross at marked crosswalks. Those who ride a bicycle should remember to ride with the flow of traffic and follow all traffic signs and signals. Remember students are required to wear a bicycle helmet. Now that schools are open for another year, please take the extra time needed and watch out for our most precious resource, our children.

As I close this month, I would like to remind you that there is a wealth of information that you can obtain by visiting our website at www.sjso.org. Feel free to email me with any questions you may have as well as any topics you would like to see addressed here at dshoar@sjso.org. You can also download our new App by searching for



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Indie writers and booksellers: Promotion partners

On Saturday, September 20, the Ancient City Chapter of the Florida Writers Association will address the subject of how to form a strong partnership between authors and booksellers. The meeting will take place at the Main Library, located at 1960 US Highway 1 at the corner of San Carlos in St. Augustine. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and the general public is welcome.

Explaining this important partnership will be Donna Paz Kaufman, owner of Paz and Associates. She knows when boxes of unsold books sit in the garage that the marketing of the book has been a virtual afterthought. In this important session, Paz will provide solutions for the problem of unsold books; she'll discuss subjects such as what retailers need to have printed on the book cover, the terms that bookstores will require of the author, strategies for obtaining prominent display space, how to manage consignment sales and how to negotiate events and activities at the bookstore.

Paz is also the founder of The Bookstore Training Group.

the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office in your "App" store. Also, if you sign up for the Sheriff's Office social media sights on Facebook and Twitter you will be sure to receive important updates anytime.

The company helps people open and operate their own retail bookstore. She holds a business degree and is a certified trainer in customer service and leadership. She is a past president of the Women's National Book Association.

Monthly meetings are a partnership of the Friends of the Main Library and the Ancient City Chapter of the Florida Writers Association. For more information, please contact Judy Weber at fwaacc@gmail.com.

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Tag fees now reduced

Residents renewing their auto, truck and motorcycle tags after September 1 will benefit from a new state law reducing registration fees an average of \$14 to \$25.

"It is my pleasure to offer these substantial savings to St. Johns County vehicle owners, based on a law passed and adopted by the 2014 Florida Legislature," said St. Johns County Tax Collector Dennis W. Hollingsworth, CFC.

"Since SB 156 was adopted, your Tax Collector and staff have diligently been advising residents of the potential

savings, whether they have brought in their renewals or sent them in the mail," Hollingsworth continued.

Residents whose registrations expire September 1 or later are seeing the reduced rates on their renewal notices now.

Due to the high volume of customers anticipated in early September, customers are encouraged to either renew online at www.gorenv.com or by mail after September 1. If you must visit any of our office locations, please be prepared for a longer than usual wait time.

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* APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Your APR will be based upon your individualized credit history. 1.74% APR includes a .25% auto-pay discount and applies to terms up to 48 months on new or used cars, trucks, or SUVs. Other loan terms and rates (up to 84 months on new autos and 72 months on used autos) are available. Some restrictions apply. Does not apply to indirect loans. 1.74% APR is effective as of July 1, 2014 and is subject to change at any time without prior notice. Visit www.firstflorida.org/all-rates/ for auto, recreational vehicle, boat, and motorcycle loan rate information.

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What's New

Continued from page 3

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.

Mark your calendars! The **NW St. Johns County Republican Club** will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at The Champions Club at Julington Creek, located at 1111 Durbin Creek Boulevard in Fruit Cove. The social begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by our guest speaker, Congressman Ron DeSantis at 7:00 p.m.

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 clinic is scheduled for Saturday, September 13 and will run 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.

Interested in flying, learning to lead, camp, get in shape and push yourself to new limits? Then, consider joining the **Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Program** in Fruit Cove, an extension of a squadron located at the St. Augustine Airport. To become a cadet, you must be at least 12 years old and not yet 19 years old. Cadets meet every Tuesday night in Fruit Cove. The meeting place is located in building Annex 106, Oak Leaf Lane and North Ridgecrest Lane from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. For more directions and information, please contact Lt. Al Uy at auy@flwg.us. Also, check out www.gocivilairpatrol.com.

The **September General Meeting of the All Star Quilters Guild** will be held on Monday, September 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the First Christian Church, located at 11924 San Jose Boulevard. The program will be on the fabric art of Mola as practiced by the Indians of Central America. Visitors are welcome! For more information, please contact Dot Butler at 642-6574 and visit us at www.orgsites.com/fl/allstarquiltguild and www.facebook.com/allstarquilters.

The **2014-2015 board of directors for the Julington Creek Plantation Property Owners Association (POA)** is as follows: Bob Ascher, President; D. Brad Hughes, Vice-President; Jim O'Meara, Treasurer; James Luenzman, Secretary; Terry Flesher, Judith Lavosky and Kathy Minnis. For additional information about the JCPPOA, please visit

their website at www.jcppoa.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.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is an international weight loss club; our Chapter TOPS #FL493, St. Augustine meets every Wednesday at the old Colee Cove Fire Station, located at 9105 County Road 13 North. We meet at 8:30 a.m. to weigh in and the meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. We have weekly programs prepared from material sent to us by TOPS, Inc. Your first meeting is free, come and check us out! For more information, please call Sara Weaver at 940-7528 or Bobbi Culbreth at 824-2466.

The **MOMS Club** 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 Faith Community Church on County Road 210. Children are welcome at all of our meetings and activities. Some of the activities we have planned are trips to the zoo, beach/pool days, story time at the library and playgroups at members' homes and local parks. For additional information, please contact sanmoms@gmail.com or visit www.sanmomsclub.weebly.com.

The **American Heart Association's First Coast Heart Walk** will be held on Saturday, September 20. Opening Ceremonies and festivities begin at 8:00 a.m. and the walk officially starts at 9:00 a.m. at Metropolitan Park in Downtown Jacksonville. The non-competitive, 3.6-mile walk raises funds to support heart disease and stroke research and educational programs in the First Coast area. Brisk walking for as little as 30 minutes a day has proven health benefits, such as providing increased energy and circulation, as well as reduced risk of heart disease. The Heart Walk is designed to help participants understand this critical message, join with others and generate a renewed commitment to heart-healthy living through walking. The Heart Walk is free and open to the public. For more information and to register, please visit www.FirstCoastHeartWalk.org or call 256-5721.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month

Every parent wants their child to succeed and one of the simplest ways you can ensure your child's academic success is by making a quick trip to the library. There is no better time than Library Card Sign-up Month to make this happen! This September, the St. Johns County Public Library System joins with the American Library Association and public libraries across the nation to make sure all children have the most important school supply of all—a free library card. The St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners got in on the act by proclaiming September "Library Card Sign-up Month in St. Johns County" at the beginning of their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 2.

This card can get you into the coolest club in town, in person or online. Need informa-

tion for that school report due tomorrow and it's 9 o'clock at night? We have several great databases that students of all ages can access from home any time of day. It's easy—go to sjcpls.org, click on the link that you need, enter the number from your library card and the world opens up at your fingertips. Online homework help, reference databases, "Ask-a-Librarian" and many more web resources are available to everyone who joins the library. We even have practice tests for the SAT, ACT, GED and much more.

"Our library provides all types of students a welcoming atmosphere where they can explore, discover and create," says Library Director Debra Rhodes Gibson. "Students learn in a variety of ways, and thanks to the resources available at the

library, we can meet the needs of all ages and types of learners. Whether that is through homework help, teen programs or access to print and e-books, the library has something for everyone—all with a free library card. It is for these reasons that a library card is the most important school supply of all."

Many fun activities are planned throughout the Library System to show you that you get more than a tool to check out books when you sign up for a library card—your library card is your ticket to a world of discovery, fun and learning.

For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit our six branches and two bookmobiles in person or visit our online library at www.sjcpls.org. You can also contact Library Administration at 824-6925.

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Congratulations!

To *The CreekLine's* 2014-2015 high school student writers!

Melinda Szabo,
BTHS Happenings

Skye Colbert,
BTHS Sports Roundup

Logan Leonard,
CHS Happenings

They join continuing writers:

Kassie Solms,
CHS Sports Roundup

Samuel Wright,
Nease Happenings

Be sure to look for their columns beginning in this issue!

(We are still taking applications for a writer for Nease Sports Roundup! Contact editor@thecreekline.com today to find out more!)



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William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway update

By Contributing Writer Al Abbatiello, alabbat@comcast.net

We're baaaaaack! It's always a challenge to open these updates in ways that will encourage readers to read on. We're baaaaaack is appropriate as we're back from summer hiatus with an exciting year ahead.

Last month you were given information on the lesson planning being produced by the William Bartram Scenic Highway Management Group for St. Johns County School District students. The project will "knock your socks off" and will give readers a better understanding of the history of NW St. Johns County, St. Augustine and the county. It's coming—stay tuned.

Our consultant has just submitted their "final" draft of a historical narrative and I will now share parts of the executive summary to help warm your interest:

"The Historical Narrative study covers a number of small communities in the Northwest portion of our county from Toco, Picolata, Fruit Cove, Switzerland, Orangedale, Elwood, Sampson and others that no longer exist.

The study uncovered the story of Northwest St. Johns County from Timucuan occupation to Spanish overlords and the establishment

of Spanish Missions. It covers the arrival of the British in the 18th century and their plantation system and the return of the Spanish 20 years later. The study reviews the chaotic border problems and diverse ethnic mix that grew in the region later in the 18th century as Spanish East Florida resisted attempts at subterfuge by the Americans.

The historical narrative covers the growth of the Antebellum Period, the impact of the Civil War as well as the rise and decline of the Steamboat and Flagler Eras on the county. The narrative discusses the late nineteenth and twentieth century rural lifestyle that characterized our region until World War II. Finally, the history reviews the last half of the 20th century and the massive changes development wrought into our riverine world."

Hope the above "teaser" warms you up as a lot more is coming.

Last month readers were informed of the fact we're hav-

ing our second annual Antique Appraisal Fair on September 20, 2014 at the RiverTown Amenity Center. The Antique Appraisal hours will be from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. You can bring up to three antiques for appraisal by one of a variety of antique experts. We ask for a \$5 donation for each item to be appraised. Bring your art, jewelry, porcelains, signed books and documents, military memorabilia and items you think might have value and be pleasantly surprised. Look for flyers in your favorite storefronts. You're also welcome to email for additional formation at the following address: pjabbat@yahoo.com or alabbat@comcast.net.

Oh, we're also having a bake sale. Refreshments will be served. Come on out and have an enjoyable day at the beautiful RiverTown community and their magnificent Amenity Center on the St. Johns River. Your treasures may, in fact, be rewarding in more ways than imagined.

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Palencia area thriving with five new retailers

A unique residential/retail Village Center at Palencia in St. Johns County has added five retailers this summer and the community now has more than 30 commercial businesses operating in the hub or at other locations.

Retailers Wine Down on Market Street, Miko Salon, Market Street Boutique, Pure Balance Wellness and Yoga and Intermedia have opened in Palencia's Village Center, joining other commercial businesses.

In all, more than 30 retailers, including Starbucks, BB&T Bank, Dunkin' Donuts, a pet clinic, an exercise studio and Donovan's Irish Pub, operate in the Village Center or retail spaces at Palencia along U.S. Highway 1 near the entrance.

Palencia's walkable, European-style Village Center also

features the newly renovated The Palencia Club and the Village Lofts at Palencia – 16 spacious residential units above the retail shops in the community's center.

The vibrant mix – sparked by increased retail activity and rising homes sales – is creating an energy in the Village Center that developer Hines had envisioned when it opened the 2,350-acre community in the early 2000s.

"It's exciting to see our vision of Palencia become reality," said Walt O'Shea, Hines' managing director. "The growth of retail at our Village Center is something we have all been anticipating. It is working hand-in-hand with the increase in home sales and creating an energy in the heart of Palencia that is palpable."

Recognize the symptoms of a stroke

Strokes are the leading cause of disability in the United States and the third-leading cause of death. Prompt treatment can limit the damage and save lives. If you suspect someone near you is suffering from a stroke, remember the acronym FAST:

F = Face. Examine the person's features. Ask him or her to smile. If one side of the person's face droops, it's possible that a stroke is coming on.

A = Arms. Can the person raise both arms above his head?

S = Speech. Listen to the person speak. If the words are slurred or the person can't answer questions clearly, the brain may be impaired.

T = Time. Act fast if the person exhibits any of these warning signs. Get him or her to a hospital right away.

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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, jal@rtpublishing.com

Legacy is an interesting concept. I think everyone, to some extent, is concerned with his or her legacy—what will I be known for when I'm gone? I thought about the idea of legacy this summer as my wife and I joined her family for a trip through Alaska and Yukon. The majesty of these still largely wilderness regions is breathtaking. One cannot visit sites like Glacier Bay, Denali National Park and the temperate rain forests and not understand the motivation behind people like John Muir, Stephen Mather, and Teddy Roosevelt. Their common legacy was that they were largely responsible for the creation of the National Park Service. Preservation in general presents innumerable conflicts of interest; however, to argue against the preservation of our national parks is a futile endeavor. What a remarkable legacy America has established, behind the leadership of Muir, Mather, Roosevelt and others.

Presidents and other high-ranking leaders attempt to shape their legacies on a daily basis. During the debate regarding the ratification of the Constitution, Jefferson favored limited executive power. As president, however, he made one of the greatest increases in presidential power ever: the purchase of the Louisiana Territory (the constitutionality of which is still debatable to this day).

Richard Nixon should have been remembered for his achievements in foreign policy and, surprisingly perhaps, in civil rights and environmental reform. But, Watergate and his resignation completely redefined his legacy. President Reagan is famously remembered for his demand, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" George H. W. Bush, the patriarch of a political dynasty, undoubtedly will for-

ever regret and be remembered for his campaign promise, "Read my lips, no new taxes." Bill Clinton will forever be remembered for sexual impropriety, despite the fact that he was and is a brilliant politician. Legacy can be tricky and unpredictable regardless of how much we wish to control it.

Few of us will have the opportunity to leave legacies as grand as those of a president (and that isn't all bad). Our legacies may be more mundane, but are no less important. Consider the people closest to you – your parents and grandparents, your best childhood friend, your neighbors and colleagues. What will your and their legacies be? Can you yet see the development of your children's legacies? Like those in high position,

our legacies are neither ours to entirely determine, nor are they going to be exactly what we wish them to be.

Beyond the idea of a personal legacy, I believe we also have a community legacy. Again, consider the intentions of the founders of our country? On September 17, 1787, they approved their and, in turn, our intended legacy in the Preamble of the Constitution, "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

LUNAR PHASES

Full: September 9
Last Quarter: September 16
New: September 24
First Quarter: October 1



A realtor's role in new construction

By Contributing Writer Amanda Long, Communications Specialist, Watson Realty Corp.

With the housing market turning around, new construction sales are on the rise. In St. Johns County there are many options for buying new construction.

The number three selling master planned community in the country as of July 2014, according to RCLCO real estate advisors, is Nocatee. Located in St. Johns County, Nocatee is continuously expanding. RCLCO has conducted national surveys

to identify the best-selling master planned communities since 1994. Nocatee is one of three master planned communities in St. Johns County, along with Durbin Crossing and Aberdeen.

"We find that the community amenities and St. Johns County school system are the main attractions for families moving to the NW St. Johns County area," noted Nina Bay, broker associate at the Watson Realty Corp. St. Johns office.

Durbin Crossing and Nocatee both have new K-8 schools that opened at the beginning of this school year. These neighborhoods also offer numerous amenities. Some of the available amenities in these master planned communities include pools, water parks, recreational parks, nature trails, fitness centers, skate parks and dog parks. There are also community events for the whole family.

"A realtor is a great liaison between builder and buyer to assist with any questions the buyer has on the home or the building process," explained Bay.

There are many advantages to using a realtor when looking to buy a newly constructed home. One of the top advantages is that the builder typically compensates the realtor, meaning buyers have the realtor assistance at no cost.

"Knowledge is power and working with an agent will help buyers be aware of what to expect and keep them fully informed through the entire process," explained Julie Bentley, sales associate at the Watson Realty Corp. Mandarin North office. "Where else can you get professional advice and guidance at no cost?"

The sales agent on site in a newly developed or developing neighborhood represents the builder, not the buyer.

"A realtor will encourage a buyer to consider what will affect the future resale value of a home," said Bentley. "These include the location of the lot,

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On a divided highway where no median or barrier exists, all vehicles are mandated to stop.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



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Newcomers' October luncheon announced

By Contributing Writer Mona Jensen, Newcomers of North St. Johns

Newcomers of North Saint Johns (NNSJ) will hold its luncheon meeting on Tuesday, October 21, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the historic Pena-Peck House on St. George Street in St. Augustine. The Women's Exchange of St. Augustine operates and maintains this beautiful house. The house is filled with antique Peck furnishings. Please join us.

The menu will include chicken breast in wine and mushroom sauce, brown rice, vegetable rolls and tea or coffee. The program will include a tour of the house.

The total cost is \$25, including tax and tip, and each guest will receive a \$5 coupon to be used in the shops and holiday gift rooms. All reservations must be received by Octo-

ber 7 and there are no refunds. Please address checks to NNSJ and mail to F. Wolk, 3147 Trout Creek Court, St. Augustine 32092.

Become a member! NNSJ invites any resident of St. Johns County who has moved here recently, is experiencing a life change or just wants to become acquainted with some new friends. We offer a wide variety of activities for you to get acquainted and have fun, including lunch groups, wine socials, golf, Mah Jongg, holiday parties, day trips and cultural events. If you are interested in NNSJ membership information or to request a newsletter about other upcoming activities, please contact Sue Aird at sjaird@comcast.net.

Local dancing fans can celebrate the 24th annual First Coast Classic Ballroom and Latin Dance Championship

Get your cha-cha heels on for this year's 24th annual First Coast Classic Dancesport Championship! Ballroom and Latin dancers from around the United States and beyond will compete for \$100,000 in cash prizes at the Renaissance World Golf Village in St. Augustine from October 2 through October 4, 2014.

Now in its second decade, the First Coast Classic gives spectators the chance to experience the glamour and excitement of a live dance competition up close. You will see some of the nation's top professional

and amateur couples perform in their dazzling costumes at the beautiful Renaissance Resort WGV.

The competition excitement heats up Thursday morning and continues all day and night through the weekend. Friday and Saturday evenings feature the pros performing electrifying dances such as the cha-cha, salsa, tango, waltz and jive, as they compete for the World Masters Title.

Spectator tickets are available for day and evening sessions starting at \$25. Dinner tickets are also available.

To purchase tickets, please call 338-9200 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 p.m. Be sure to see their ad in this issue of *The CreekLine*!

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Tips for planning the perfect autumn garage sale

By Contributing Writer Dianne Battle

Summer is over and the stores are reminding you that Christmas is coming. Santa can wait. There are a lot of great things to do in autumn. Why not have a garage sale? Here are proven tips for "Planning the Perfect Garage Sale." Next month's article will take you from the start of the sale through the cleanup.

1. Perfect. "Perfect" is in the eye of the seller. Set reasonable goals for the event and you'll be happier with the outcome. It's nice to make a profit, but it's not just about money. This is a chance to downsize and organize - and a good excuse to just meet-and-greet.

2. Prepare. If your community has a traditional garage sale

date, finalize your inventory one or two weeks ahead of time. Get lots of petty cash and shopping bags/boxes. Recruit a friend or mature family member to be on hand during the sale so you aren't chained to your station. Consult your insurance for liability coverage in case of a mishap. Consider keeping your pet occupied indoors. In the context of

liability, garage sales are subject to consumer product safety laws prohibiting the sale (or disposal) of hazardous goods. Use the guidelines at <http://www.cpsc.gov/resale> to help you stay compliant and protect your buyers and their families from harm caused by an unsafe item.

3. Promote early and often. *The CreekLine* and other local papers feature free and paid classifieds; get your ad in by the deadline. If your neighborhood, church or club has a free bulletin board or website, use it. Craigslist and other online services are go-to resources. Tell your friends, associates, and neighbors and tell 'em again.

4. Price your stock reasonably. A sensible guideline is 20 percent of original retail. Put a price tag or colored label (referencing a price list) on everything or use a sign: "All items 50¢." Give multi-item discounts. "Stop in and Get a Freebie," encourages folks to "come on down." Display your "return policy" at the checkout area.

5. Presentation sells. Design an organized attractive layout. Place desirable items out front. Use a colorful sign or flag. Make it convenient to browse. Provide an outlet for testing electrical equipment. Move your car so there is parking available. Have an activity area to keep children out of mischief.

Congratulations, your planning is done! Next month: Putting on the Perfect Garage Sale.

Memorial Hospital is proud to be the first hospital in Jacksonville to perform a single-site, robotic-assisted hysterectomy. Using the da Vinci Surgical System, Dr. Sonnie Kim-Ashchi successfully performed the complex surgical procedure through a single incision in the belly button. This procedure is considered one of the latest breakthroughs in robotic-assisted surgery.

"I am honored to be the first physician in Jacksonville to perform this procedure through a single incision," said Dr. Kim-Ashchi. "We've been performing hysterectomies using the surgical robot for several years but the single-site technique takes this surgery to a whole new dimension by helping patients recover quicker with less pain and improved outcomes."

Unlike traditional robotic surgery, which requires about four incisions, this new technique is virtually scarless, allowing for a single one-inch incision in the belly button. Using tiny instruments and a specialized 3D camera, the physician sits at a console with a high-definition, 3D view of the anatomy for improved precision, accuracy and control.

Benefits include less pain, less scarring, less blood loss, a shorter hospital stay, faster recovery and quicker return to normal activities.

"This is the way of the future and Memorial Hospital is proud to be at the forefront by leading the way in robotic-assisted surgery," said Jim O'Loughlin, president and CEO at Memorial Hospital. "Our goal is to provide safe, high-quality care to patients by improving accuracy, outcomes and the overall patient experience."

Physicians at Memorial Hospital are also using the da Vinci Surgical System to perform general, thoracic, urologic and bariatric procedures.



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Hospital performs first of its kind surgery in Jacksonville

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Remembering Donna Keathley



It is with great sadness that we at *The CreekLine* share the recent passing of our longtime friend and columnist, Donna Keathley. Donna was one of our original contributors, penning *Fashion Update* in her inimitable style for over 12 years and branching out more recently to write under the pseudonym Joy Hartley for *The Lifestyle Guru*.

Her celebration of life and memorial service will be on Saturday, September 20 at 3:00 p.m. at Geneva Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Keathley Fund at Geneva that helps with youth scholarships and property improvements. Donna was always a big participant in the church’s annual vacation bible school. She and her late husband, Bob Keathley, purchased a grill for the VBS hot dog luncheons and the many youth cookouts at the church.

Donna will be missed greatly and long remembered by many friends in NW St. Johns County.

**JCP CDD June meeting
minutes summary**

By James A. Lee

Present and comprising a quorum were Chairperson Nina Kannat-Gapinski, Supervisors Sam Lansdale, Natalie Page and Pat Jacob. Supervisor Cathy Klein was absent. Additionally, District Manager Jim Perry; District Counsel Jennifer Kilinski; and General Manager Edd Mooney were present.

Several of the items before the Board of Supervisors met with extended discussion. The first of these was the typically routine matter of approval of the minutes. Perry requested that the minutes from the May 13, 2015 meeting be tabled. The discussion primarily regarded problems, concerns and solutions to the fact that meeting minutes are not verbatim, including hiring a court reporter to record meetings.

Perry presented the draft of the fiscal year 2015 audit. A discussion followed focusing on several technical points. The bottom line of the audit was that the CDD received a clean report with no findings or recommendations. The board voted unanimously to accept the report.

As expected, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015 received a great deal of discussion. Most of this discussion, however, centered on a few technical points and on a secondary issue of whether a subsequent hearing must be public or not. The board unanimously approved the Proposed Budget and the setting of a public hearing to be held on August 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Fruit Cove Middle School on Race Track Road.

A lengthy discussion was given to documents for revamping the evaluation tool of the general manager that had been requested by Klein. The discussion began with the matter of the proposed evaluation tool being copyrighted and the associated costs. The board’s primary concern was the matter of how users of the district facilities should be counted (one of the measures of the general manager’s evaluation). Balancing concerns of facility-user privacy with accurate counting of those

users resulted in questions about this data differentiating between individuals, families and groups. The board rendered no decision regarding the evaluation tool.

In the staff reports, Kilinski addressed attempted communications with the Julington Creek Plantation Property Owners Association regarding landscape enhancements and procedures for setting the agenda. Mooney fielded questions and concerns regarding a request from resident Karl Rogers, who, with his 15-year old-son are frequent users of the fitness floor. Rogers requested that management waive the district policy requiring those under age 16 to be accompanied by an adult for his son and any others whose parents sign a waiver. After a very detailed discussion of the district policy, similar policies of other association facilities and the supervisors’ opinions, the board kept the current policy unchanged. The general manager also requested that facilities be provided, for a fee, to the massage service company, Therapy Works. The board voted four to one, with Lansdale voting in the negative. Finally, in his financial report, Perry stated, “We are pretty much on budget.”

For more information regarding the meetings and their minutes, you may refer to the JCP CDD website www.jcpcdd.org. As of the publication deadline for this article, the July minutes had not been posted on the website.

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Heritage Landing's community events

Following are some of the events that Heritage Landing has planned for its residents for September:

For more information about the events below, please call 940-6095 or email us at campheritage@heritagelanding.com or comcastbiz.net. Unless otherwise noted, these events are for Heritage Landing residents and their guests.

Celebrate Back to School with a free snow cone on Sunday, September 14 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Providence Bible Church. Please contact Pastor Mike Lewis at ProvidenceBibleChurch.com for additional information.

The St. Johns County Public Library Bookmobile will come to the Amenity Center the first and third Wednesday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Visit their website at sjcpls.org.

Toddler and Preschool Story Time: Join the Children's Librarian at the amenity center the first and third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. for newborns to three-year-olds and 10:30 a.m. for three- to five-

year-olds. For more information, please visit their website at sjcpls.org.

The Adult Book Club meets the third Thursday of each month from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. This is a free program sponsored by the St. Johns County Public Library.

Student Band Rehearsal is held on Sunday nights from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. All Heritage Landing resident band students are welcome. Student Band is led by resident Mr. Iaropli. Please call 940-1119 for more information.

The Heritage Landing Business Networking Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Heritage Landing business owners or representatives, come introduce your business to fellow residents. The meeting is free. A \$5 fee gets your business card published in this month's newsletter.

The Heritage Landing CDD Board of Supervisors meeting will be Thursday, September 11 at 10:00 a.m. For more information about the CDD, please visit heritagelandingcdd.org.

Amenity Athletics Fall Soccer games begin September 20.

Soccer is for kids between the ages of four and 11 years old. For more information, please go to: QuickScores.com/Amenity-Athletics.

Cell Phones for Soldiers. Please remember to donate your old cell phones to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Bring your donations to the amenity center office during regular business hours.

WARNING!

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Questions? Please call Chris Acosta, President of St. Johns County FOP at 669-4405.

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Welcome, Dr. Sandler!

By Contributing Writer Kim Benson, Audiologist, LifeSounds Hearing Aids

We are proud to announce that Dr. Jeffrey M. Sandler of Bartram Park Family ENT has joined the staff at LifeSounds Hearing Aids, located next to Baptist Primary right off International Golf Parkway. He is a Board Certified physician of the American Academy of Otolaryngology, specializing in the evaluation and management of diseases of the ears, nose, throat and neck. He is also a Fellow of

the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Sandler currently specializes in areas of allergies and sinus surgery, head and neck cancer, snoring and sleep apnea, reconstructive surgery, and hearing evaluation and treatment. Dr. Sandler also has a keen interest in new technology. He was the first to adapt several new technologies at Baptist South, including Balloon Sinuplasty and intraoperative parathyroid hormone assay for parathyroid surgery. He also specializes in facial and cosmetic surgery. He has built his practice to provide care to all members of the family in a caring, comfortable and straight-forward manner.

Dr. Sandler retired from the United States Navy and has over 25 years of experience in treating patients from pediatrics to geriatrics around the world. During his service in the Navy, he trained family practice residents, developed quality improvement processes for patients and was chief of surgery upon retiring from military service.

In addition, Dr. Sandler has been a local Scout Master for the last 15 years and he enjoys teaching physician assistant students from NOVA University.

With the addition of Dr. Sandler to the staff of Life-Sounds Hearing Aids, we are pleased to offer our patients full medical and audiological services in one location in your neighborhood. Be sure to see our ad in this issue of *The CreekLine!*

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Nease PTSO board offering new perspectives and new programs

By Contributing Writer Alexis McDaniel, Corresponding Secretary, Nease High School PTSO

The Allen D. Nease High School Parent, Teacher, Student Organization (PTSO) recently discussed a variety of new programs it wants to start at its first meeting during the school year. The new board includes: President Vara Suresh, Vice President Denise Hodges, Treasurer Bambi Deitch, Recording Secretary Becky Lawson and Corresponding Secretary Alexis McDaniel. Parliamentarian Courtney Scherer could not attend. The group and several committee heads, gathered at Starbuck's in Palencia on August 20.

The PTSO board members bring a diverse background to the table.

Suresh was a medical doctor in India before coming to the States 15 years ago. Her volunteer activities and her children keep her busy. She served as co-



Corresponding Secretary Alexis McDaniel, Recording Secretary Becky Lawson, President Vara Suresh, Vice President Denise Hodges and Treasurer Bambi Deitch. Not pictured is Parliamentarian Courtney Scherer, last year's co-president.

president of the PTSO last year. She is currently the IB Booster Club secretary, 4H Science Club leader, Indian Cultural Society of Jacksonville executive board member, and Night of Asian Festival associate marketing director.

"It is an honor to serve as the Nease High School PTSO President," Suresh said. "We are proud to have an active PTSO with parents, volunteers, students, teachers, administrators and staff this year."

"We work together throughout the year to organize activities to support our students and teachers. In order to reach our goal, we need all the parents to join. We are planning to have a Ladies' Night Out, question and answer session with the principal and teachers, student government participation on the board and a business partner breakfast," she said.

"These are all new programs to encourage more parents to join and help us for an exciting and a successful year. We look forward to working with all of you. Feel free to contact us with your questions and ideas," Suresh explained.

Vice President Denise Hodges has been involved with public education for the past 25 years, as an elementary teacher for 23 years and for two years as a volunteer at Pacetti Bay Middle School. She graduated from University of North Florida with bachelor's and master's degrees of education. She also enjoys volunteering at her church.

Treasurer Bambi Deitch has a master's degree in public health nutrition, but her favorite pastime is being a mom to her son Bailey, 16 and daughter Aubrey, 14. She is an avid volunteer in the St. Johns County School system and in the community. She moved here from Kentucky eight years ago and she oversees the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club at Nease

High School.

Recording Secretary Becky Lawson is originally from Massachusetts and has an interior design degree. She is a military spouse and has lived and volunteered around the world. Her family has been in St. Augustine for the past seven years and she has held several PTSO board positions. Her daughter is in the 10th grade at Nease.

Corresponding Secretary Alexis McDaniel moved to Palencia from West Virginia five years ago and has two children at Nease: Paul, 16 and Ali, 14. She is a former print and television journalist and small business owner, with several years of community volunteering/marketing. She handles the new Facebook page and new communication efforts for the PTSO and the staff appreciation events.

Parliamentarian Courtney Scherer has lived in and has been an active volunteer in our area since graduating from the University of Florida. She served as co-president and vice president of the PTSO in past years. She held several positions at Pacetti Bay, such as vice president and on SAC Committee. At Mill Creek Elementary, she was the PTA president, vice president, on SAC Committee and SAC treasurer. Her children are Case and Riley and she supports the Nease Band program as volunteer coordinator.

As for the other committee chairs, Nadia Talbot is responsible for membership and the discount card. Enora Rogers is handling the business partnerships. Deepa Patel is the volunteer coordinator and is overseeing the school supply drive. Pam Champney and Scherer will coordinate the Senior Breakfast.

By clicking on and "liking" the Nease High School PTSO page, you can get the latest information about upcoming events and news from around the school.

Native Sons & Daughters tribes forming!

By Contributing Writer Brian Quirk, Flaming Arrow, Native Sons & Daughters

The Timucuan Federation Longhouse of the Native Sons and Daughters announces the kick-off to our 2014-2015 program year. Due to continued growth, this year we will have two orientation/information meetings for parent convenience.

The first will be held on

got news?
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Thursday, September 11 at Fruit Cove Baptist Church, located at 501 State Road 13 in NW St. Johns County. The second will be held on Tuesday, September 16 at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, located at 4001 Hendricks Avenue. Both meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The Native Sons and Daughters program is a parent/child program which is enhanced by a Native American theme and is designed to create life-long

memories. Children ages five to 12 are eligible to join and all of our activities are age appropriate. Upcoming events include: City Wide Pow Wow, costume bowling and our fall campouts.

For more information about our parent/child program, you may contact Mike "Bull Horn Moose" Russell at RecruitmentChief@timucuan.org or send your questions to info@timucuan.org or visit our website at www.timucuan.org.

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Inaugural Rubber Duck Regatta to be held in October

Learn To Read (LTR) of St. Johns County, Inc. is holding its first Rubber Ducky Regatta to benefit Learn to Read on October 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at Nocatee's Splash Water Park. Up to 5,000 adopted rubber ducks will float down the "Lazy Tides River" with the top finishers winning fabulous prizes! It only costs \$5 to adopt a ducky to participate in the race.

House, the Homeless Coalition, the Northeast Florida C and other social services agencies to recruit adult students who want to improve their literacy skills so they can change their lives.

You may adopt online by going to www.ltrstjohns.org or stopping by Learn to Read at 70 South Dixie Highway in St. Augustine. You will receive an email with number(s) of your adopted duck(s)! "Permanent Adoption" rubber ducks (non-racing) are also available!

Through partial funding by the United Way, St. Johns County, Christ Church at Serenata and with the generous support of the community, LTR is able to provide the necessary materials to assist its students, as well as to recruit and train volunteer tutors. Please call Charlotte at 826-0011 for information about becoming a tutor or helping LTR.

For additional information, please call LTR at 826-0011.

Learn To Read, Inc. is a volunteer-based organization that has provided free literacy skills assessment and tutoring in basic literacy and math to St. Johns County adults 16 years of age and older for over 25 years. LTR works with St. Francis

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~Winston Churchill

BTHS Happenings

A fresh start at Bartram Trail

By Melinda Szabo, BTHS Student

With summer coming to an end and school fast approaching, Bartram Trail High School has been busy gearing up for another successful school year. Over vacation, Bartram's administrative team, guidance department, teachers and janitorial staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that Bartram is prepared. With approximately 2000 students attending this year, the Bartram Trail faculty has made some adjustments in order to accommodate every individual.

men and ease their transition from middle to high school. The program, known as "Link Crew," focuses on helping freshmen form strong connections with their school and fellow students in order to achieve a greater sense of belonging. In Link Crew, older students are trained to become "Link Leaders" or role models and friends to freshmen. Link Crew is found in schools across the country and gives support to hundreds of thousands of freshmen every year.

This year, the spare classrooms in the Ninth Grade Academy, which opened in 2007 in order to accommodate the school's overwhelming enrollment, will be once again be filled with 200 additional students. Because Bartram will be expecting 560 freshmen this year, the administrative offices on the lower level of the Ninth Grade Academy have also been reopened and staffed with its own assistant principal, dean and guidance counselors.

In its debut year at Bartram, the program has 76 Link Leaders who will be giving guidance to this year's freshmen. Throughout the school year, Link Crew will host various get-togethers as well as tutoring and study sessions during finals. Link Leaders will also conduct academic and social follow-ups in order to ensure that every freshman stays on the path to ultimate high school success.

In addition to making space for this year's students, Bartram Trail has implemented a new program to guide fresh-

"Link Crew is an amazing program," says Megan Young, Bartram's Link Crew coordinator. "Not only does it ease the transition from middle school to high school, but it also serves as a way to set high expectations for students from day one."

Link Crew isn't just a social outlet for students; studies show that students who are involved in Link Crew are more successful socially and academically, making them less likely to drop-out before graduation.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Bartram's staff members, the stage has been set for another great school year. This year, Bartram's theme is "Are You Ready?" Principal Dawn Sapp emphasizes that the goal is to make sure that every student isn't just eligible, but ready for success beyond high school.

Good luck this year, Bears; you'll do great!

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Back to School Guide



The first few weeks at WCE

By Contributing Writer Wanda Nelson



Third grader Lauren and first grader Jack on the first day of school

fathers of kindergartners were invited to the annual Tissues and Tea breakfast on Friday, August 22. This was the first day that the kindergarten classes were full; previous days in the week had given a small group of these youngest students an introduction to their

new school each day. Parents were invited to the Warrior Café to have a quick breakfast and dry their tears with other new parents as they wish their kindergartners good luck on their new adventure!

The Fall Leadership Festival is going to be on September 19 and a

fun time will be had by all. The event is open to all Wards Creek families and tickets will be available by presale and at the door. Also upcoming is a "Mc-Teachers Night" at McDonalds. Come see your favorite teachers working on September 30, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. McDonalds will give 10 percent of its sales back to the school.



Third grader Brook and second grader Baylee were all smiles the first day of school.

On August 18, Wards Creek Elementary welcomed approximately 840 students back for the 2014-2015 school year. The teachers and staff worked hard the week before to get their classrooms just right to meet their new students. On August 12, the PTO hosted their annual welcome back breakfast and principal Edie Jarrell reminded all that it is indeed a "treat to do what we do" complete with beautiful candy themed decorations.

The "Meet the Teacher" events held on August 14 and 15 were well attended by the Warrior family. It was a great opportunity for parents and students to get a jump start on paperwork and classroom procedures. The school's extended day program along with the extra-curricular school activities were on hand to sign students up for the first sessions of the year.

To celebrate the newest Warrior parents, mothers and

Summer news from Boy Scout Troop 280

By Contributing Writer Lisa Leavins

It's been a busy summer for the scouts of Troop 280. A contingent of the troop headed off to North Georgia to Camp Rainey Mountain in June, bringing home merit badges and great stories to share. June also saw the scouts work as a troop on the Theatre merit badge which they coordinated themselves. Our annual flag retirement ceremony was held, which included a large number of flags from the com-

munity that had been damaged or worn.

July meant OA fun day for some of the scouts and a monthly campout to Paynes Prairie Preserve with tubing on the Ichetucknee River. The Personal Management merit badge was also offered to the troop during this month. The Patrol Leadership for the troop also held their annual planning meeting to choose themes and events for

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the coming year for their fellow scouts as well as welcoming new Scoutmaster Troy Turner.

The summer activities have drawn to a close with an August campout to Jekyll Island and Summer Waves water park. The scouts are busy settling into a new school year routine and looking forward to their summer Court of Honor. Life Scouts Tyler

Reid and Cross Blocker presented Eagle Project plans to begin implementation in early fall.

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 Troy Turner.

Want your school's Good News to appear in The CreekLine?

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More students

Continued from page 1

count was 9,831 with 1,858 students at Bartram Trail High School, 1,938 at Creekside High School, 1,307 at Pedro Menendez High School, 1,608 at Allen D. Nease High School, 1,537 at Ponte Vedra High School and 1,583 at St. Augustine High School.

Middle school attendance totaled 6,738, with student headcounts ranging from 589 at Sebastian Middle School to 1,216 at Fruit Cove Middle School. The other first day figures were Alice B. Landrum Middle School with 1,128, R. J. Murray Middle School with 715, Pacetti Bay Middle School with 1,062, Gamble Rogers Middle School with 772 and Switzerland Point Middle School with 1,256.

The district's K-8 schools totaled 3,124. Liberty Pines Academy had a first day headcount of 1,257, Patriot Oaks Academy with 908 and Valley Ridge Academy with 959.

The elementary school pop-

ulation totaled 11,361; however, this count includes less than 25 percent of the kindergarten population since schools stagger the kindergarten start date over a five-day period.

"We had one of our finest openings today and I couldn't be more pleased," said Superintendent Dr. Joseph Joyner. "I visited many schools and witnessed the outstanding planning and preparation by principals, teachers and support staff. Students arrived with smiles on their faces and eager to learn. Our maintenance and custodial staffs had the schools in pristine condition and the food service team was very well prepared."

"I am thankful to our transportation department and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office for ensuring our children got to and from school safely," he added. "I am also very appreciative to our parents for their continued support and their patience as we work through the first days of this school year."

Back to School Guide



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An All-Star start to our school year

By Contributing Writer Sarah Borgmeyer, MCE



Rhea is excited about her new classroom!

Welcome back, Mustangs! We are so excited to be starting a new year with all of our old friends and lots of new friends, too. We hope everyone has been enjoying the start to what we know is going to be an All-Star year!

We would like to introduce our new assistant principal, Michelle Robinson. She is excited to be joining the Mill Creek All-Star team this year. She most recently worked as a faculty member at Florida State University with the Math Formative Assessment System. She also worked in Seminole County as an assistant principal for six years. Robinson holds her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Florida and a specialist degree from the University of Central Florida.



Teacher Sue Green and Anders on the first day of school.

We are so excited to have her at our school; she is going to be a great asset to our learning community.

Our 2014-2015 Summer Box Top contest will be ending on September 12. Please send in your box tops taped to the sheet that was sent home at the end of the school year (new or upcoming kindergarten/pre-K families: you can find the sheet on the school's website). If you have more than what will fit on the sheet, please fill and attach a baggie to the sheet marked with your child's name and his/her teacher's name. Fun prizes will be awarded to the top three students who bring in the most box tops! There is also a year-long contest so even after the September deadline, keep collecting box tops and sending them in attached to the sheets that are sent home.

Our second Spirit Night of the school year will be held at Chick-fil-A in St. Augustine on Thursday, September 18. The event will be from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. We hope to see all of you there for a night of fun and fellowship.

On Tuesday, September 23, we will have our first Character Counts celebration. We will be honoring our students who have earned recognition for showing fairness. Families of these students are welcomed to attend. The event will be held in the cafeteria starting at 9:30 a.m. A note will be sent home to those who have been nominated.

We are still accepting new business partners, so if you're interested in working with Mill Creek, please contact the school.

Go Mustangs!

Mark your calendars for community events supporting Palencia Elementary

By Contributing Writer Lisa Acheson Luther

Families with school-age children have hopefully adjusted to their new routines, memorized class schedules and turned in paperwork and school supplies now that two weeks of the 2014-15 academic year are behind us. And with Palencia Elementary School's (PES) third year underway, the PES Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) wants to ensure everyone marks their calendars for several exciting events coming soon, all of which are open to our local community.

On Thursday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m., families are invited to bring a picnic dinner and enjoy a movie in the Palencia Park; there will be games and music on hand, as well as food and dessert trucks. A special 9/11 tribute will begin shortly before the start of the movie. Admission is free; however, costs are associated with food and games.

On Tuesday, September 16, the third annual Fore! the Kids

golf tournament will be held at the Palencia Club, with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Costs are \$150 for an individual entry (for four-person scramble) or \$600 for a foursome. Registration includes course fee, cart use, welcome bag, lunch from Firehouse Subs, on-course beverages and snacks from Smoothie King and others and Mojo's BBQ at the awards dinner.

On Thursday, September 25 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., local families and their neighbors are invited to enjoy breakfast for dinner at "Pirates and Pancakes" at the PES cafeteria. The cost is \$5 per person and includes pancakes, sausage, bacon, beverages and more. The pancake dinner coincides with the PES Fall Book Fair, which runs from September 19 through September 26 in the PES Library.

Proceeds from all PES PTO events go toward various school needs such as the inclusion of



Palencia Elementary students arrive with big smiles and colorful shoes for the first day of school on August 18.

science labs and building shade structures over the PES playground. For more information about these events including registration for the golf tournament, please visit www.palenciaelementarypto.weebly.com. The PES PTO looks forward to seeing you at one (or all!) these fun events!

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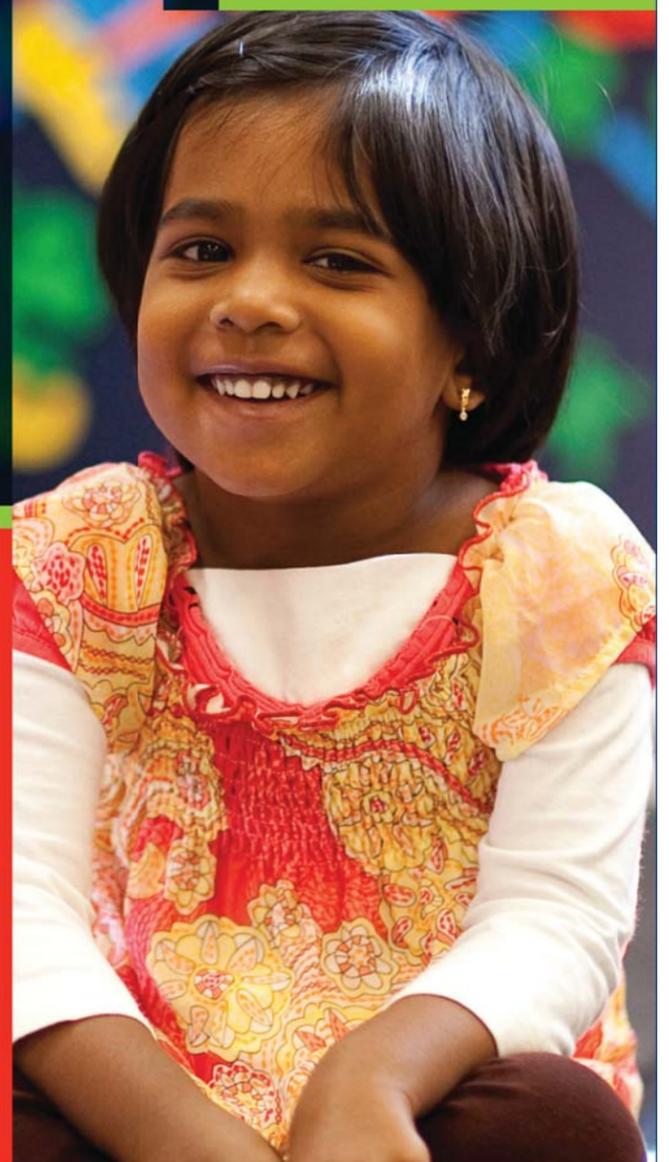
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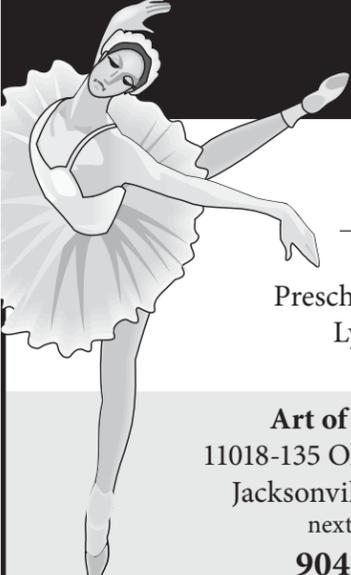


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As a new school year begins, nearly 50 children across the First Coast have a cultural experience to report, along with new friends from all over the world. These 11- to 18-year-olds (and their adult leaders) traveled to more than 10 countries (and five states), representing Jacksonville and the United States at a variety of CISV programs.

- The programs included:
- Village to Dallas (four 11-year-olds plus leader)
 - Village to Denmark (four 11-year-olds plus leader)
 - Interchange with Italy (eight 12-13 year-olds plus two leaders)
 - Youth Meeting to Switzerland (six 12-13 year-olds plus leader)
 - Step-Up to Brandywine Valley, Pennsylvania (four 14-15 year-olds plus leader)
 - Step-Up to Costa Rica (four 14-15 year-olds plus leader)
 - Step-Up to Sweden (four 14-

- 15 year-olds plus leader)
- Junior Counselors to Villages in Detroit and Norway (two 16-17 year-olds)
- Chapter Shares to Miami County, Ohio and Mexico (two 16-year-olds)
- International People's Project to Brazil (one 18-year old)
- Staffers to Youth Meeting in Tennessee and Village in Northeast Ohio (three adults)
- Junior Branch (JB) representatives in leadership roles around the world (several 18+ year olds)

For more details about each program visit: www.cisvjax.org/2014review.

In addition to travel programs in summer 2014, local initiatives included FACES of Jacksonville (a local version of an International Village program), which celebrated its 11th anniversary and a National Youth Committee meeting, which brought Junior Branch

(JB) leaders from all over the United States to Jacksonville.

Programs for summer 2015 will be announced at information sessions across the city starting in October. Session dates and locations can be found at: www.cisvjax.org/info-sessions.

About CISV Jacksonville: CISV Jacksonville (founded 1976) helps participants develop skills to become informed, responsible and active global citizens. With seven international programs starting at age 11 and a variety of local programs, including FACES of Jacksonville (bringing together 11-year-olds from across diverse Jacksonville backgrounds) and Junior Branch. CISV Jacksonville is one of 21 CISV chapters in the United States (the only one in Florida) and one of 70 chapters around the world. For additional information, please visit www.cisvjax.org.

CHS Happenings Creekside students prepare for back to school

By Logan Leonard, CHS Student

First come the teachers, rushing to prepare for a new year. Next, the athletes, fresh from grueling summer workouts. Close behind, the music and excitement of the Power of Creekside, the Knights' marching band, once again fill the courtyard and hallways. Soon, the rest of the student body will follow and bring with them the start of another great school year.

"The school year has started with a bang!" says Principal Randy Johnson. "We welcomed three hundred fifty new students during our Freshman Day and all of our orientations have thus far gone smoothly."

This year, Creekside will be home to 2,012 students, a record-breaking number and a 7 percent increase over last year. The freshmen and transfer students are not the only newcomers; Creekside also welcomes 14 new teachers this year, bringing its total to 96.

"We are, as always, extremely grateful for the support of Creekside's parents during this time of growth and transition," says Johnson.

Despite the tumult of new change and expansion, Creekside has maintained and even improved its stellar academic record. Last year, Creekside boasted its highest FCAT and AP scores yet, ranking it among the top 3 percent of Florida high schools and earning recognition from the *Washington Post* and *Newsweek's* list of America's Best High Schools. A third of Creekside's students, about 650, earned a B+ average or higher over the last year. Of perhaps even greater importance, the students truly seem to enjoy their learning.

When asked about what he is looking forward to in the upcoming school year, rising soph-

omore Ethan Unkefer responded by naming a new Cyber-Security course he plans to take.

"It sounds like a fun class!" says Unkefer.

Fun class? Isn't that an oxymoron? At Creekside, apparently not!

At the start of this exhilarating new growth and change, the sea of classes, clubs and sports for students to navigate and with a brand new year on the horizon, Creekside is abuzz with eager preparation and excitement. Principal Johnson encourages students to look forward to the new year and offers this simple advice for high school success as students once again take to the halls and classrooms: "Good, better, best; and never let it rest, until your good is better, and your better is best."

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Back to School Guide



Meet Hickory Creek's new assistant principal

By Contributing Writer Sommer Dolce, Hickory Creek Elementary



"The excellent reputation at Hickory Creek of high academics and a nurturing environment is one I hope to continue," says Roberts. "My personal philosophy concurs with the well-established motto: 'First We Love Them ... Then We Teach Them.' As Hickory Creek embarks upon its 10 year anniversary, I hope to help build upon our school's success by continuing to meet the needs of our families and preparing our students to become effective problem solvers and future leaders."

Hickory Creek Elementary School has a new assistant principal this year. Jim Roberts comes to Hickory Creek with 18 years of experience as an administrator in St. Johns County. He has served in several schools and the district office. His teaching and administration career began in Michigan and he was later fortunate to move his family to St. Augustine.

This year the school is focusing on aligning teaching methods, in particular math strategies as well as targeting

Florida standards and assessment expectations. It is also reviewing future technology as it becomes an ever increasing component of classroom instruction and learning.

"I truly embrace this opportunity to serve the students and parents of Hickory Creek Elementary School and as it ventures forth," he added. "I also wish all a safe, productive and rewarding school year."



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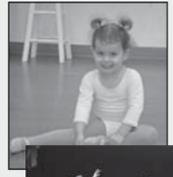
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Liberty Pines Academy: Activities abound this fall

By Contributing Writer Diana Sarama

The 2014-2015 school year has begun and the Liberty Pines Academy (LPA) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) has planned many exciting events for students and their families. For the month of September, parents interested in learning more about LPA are invited to attend the first "Quarterly Coffee with Principal Judith Thayer," which will be held on Friday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m. The remaining quarterly coffees are scheduled for November 21, February 6 and April 17 at 9:00 a.m. as well.

In October, students in kindergarten through fifth grade will be participating in the annual Boosterthon Fun Run on Wednesday, October 8. A new event for LPA will be a separate run for the middle school students. Students in sixth through eighth grade will be participating in the first LPA 2.008 Birthday Run on Thursday, October 30. The Scholastic Book Fair will round out the month of October. The book fair is scheduled for October 27 through October 31.

The Liberty Parade will be

the next big event on the calendar. This parade is to honor our men and women who have served or are currently serving our country. The Liberty Parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 7.

On Thursday, December 11 beginning at 6:00 p.m., PTO will be showcasing the Holiday Vendor Night. This is always a good way to support LPA's business partners and to get some gifts for the holidays.

These are just some of the events that will be taking place throughout the 2014-2015 school year. The PTO hopes all families will have the chance to participate in one or more events. Please check the school's website at www-lpa.stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information on what will be happening this school year.

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Back to School Guide



Back to school at Julington Creek Elementary



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Nease Happenings

New school year begins at Nease High School

By Samuel Wright, Nease Student



Some members of Nease's Link Crew

The 2014-2015 school year began last month for St. Johns County schools and Nease High School hit the ground running. With a crisp new batch of fresh-

man and an even larger student population than last year, it was important to set the school year off on the right foot. Freshman Nathan Giles had this to say about his impressions so far: "I like the beginning of high school way better than middle school in general. I felt pretty

good about the first couple of days because there were plenty of freshmen going through the same thing that I was, so it really wasn't that scary," he remarked.

An integral part of the productive start to the school year was Nease High School's "Link Crew," a carefully considered group of volunteer upperclassmen who work to assist the freshmen with their back to school struggles, such as finding their way around the school—especially helpful considering Nease High School's rather large campus.

"I was super scared that I would get lost; the school is like a maze. But after a while I got the hang of it. On the first day I couldn't find any of my classes

and got lost about five times, but then the Link Crew leaders started helping out and things got a lot easier," recollected Giles.

This school year has a lot in store at Nease, with student body officers looking to vamp up the school spirit even further—a project they vigorously worked on last year. Part of this includes the continuation of the student "FanZone" which will make its return at football games this year, with those in charge claiming that it will be even better than before.

Despite the strong start to the school year, it has only just started. The year to come holds plenty in store for the students and faculty at Nease and will bring additional opportunities

as well as potential challenges.

"Honestly, I am sure there will be some challenge involved; you don't get anywhere unless there's anything hard in life, so I'm sure there will be some hard time. But there's also going to be some fun opportunities, it should be a lot of fun," Giles concluded. "I expect it to be a fun year and a great learning experience."



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Back to School Guide



Off to a great start at Patriot Oaks Academy

By Contributing Writer Jennifer Sicilian, Patriot Oaks Academy PTO Corresponding Secretary

As kids rolled out of bed for the first day of school, many of them were mumbling, "I don't want summer to end." And who can blame them? Fun days of summer living in Florida were still on the minds of our students; however, stepping foot onto our new campus put the end-of-summer-blues to rest.

Patriot Oaks Academy opened its doors to students on Monday, August 18 for the first-ever first day of school. The halls were filled with smiles. Kids beaming with pride about their new school while being decked out in their red, white and blue.

Teachers and staff had been in the school a week prior setting up classrooms and preparing for the opening day. Regions Bank partnered with the PTO in providing breakfast for the teachers and staff at the school's first "Welcome Breakfast." What a wonderful event to really kick off the school year! The school

then hosted three "Meet the Teacher" events. The turnout for these was amazing. Parents and students were excited to tour their school.

September is an exciting time for Patriot Oaks Academy. The school will be experiencing many "firsts" in the school's history. One of the things that makes Patriot Oaks so special is that it is a neighborhood school. All neighbors are invited to the first spirit night on Thursday, September 11. This will be held at PDQ (Bartram Plaza location). From 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., tell the cashier you are with Patriot Oaks Academy and the school will earn money from your purchase!

The first general PTO meeting will be in the evening on September 19. This meeting will be prior to our Literacy Night and first shopping opportunity for the book fair. This will be a fun evening for the entire family. Go Chargers!

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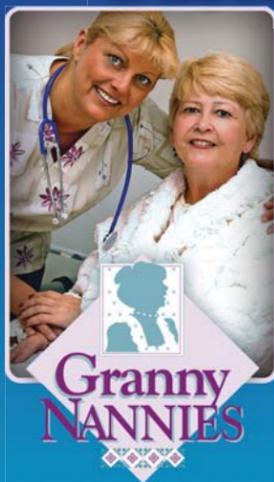


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JCE Principal Michael Story was challenged by fourth grade teacher Jackie Clarke to do the ALS bucket challenge. Here he is accepting the challenge, with the bucket being dumped by teachers Lara Pierce and Glenn Aspinwall.

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Boy Scout Troop 718 goes "spelunking"

By Contributing Writers Preston Ashley, Star Scout and Brett Arant, Tenderfoot Scout, Troop 718



On August 8, 12 scouts from Boy Scout Troop 718 of Switzerland, based at Switzerland Community Church, visited the astonishing Florida Caverns State Park near Marianna beside the Chipola River. The 12 scouts and six adults who went on the three-day trip received a flashlight tour of the cool and comfortable caverns, which reached just about 65 degrees Fahrenheit, a clash between the hot and humid environment outside of the caverns.

Inside the caverns the "spelunkers" saw several astounding natural cavern formations such as limestone stalactites, stalagmites, soda straws, flowstones

and the steamy weather, the scouts completed a two-mile hike to the "Blue Hole," a freshwater spring where the scouts enjoyed a very chilly, but refreshing swim. The scouts also completed several rank advancements and scout skills in the spare time they had at the campsite.

How can it get any better, you might ask? With some exquisite food, of course! The scouts feasted on such delicacies as macaroni and cheese and ham, breakfast wraps, cherry cobbler and the delectable monkey bread. Those amazing dishes are credited to their equally amazing cooks, without whom

and draperies (also known as cave bacon). Despite the pestering gnats

the scouts may have had only spam and sandwiches with very little variation!

Of course, though, every rose has its thorn and this campout's thorns were the gnats. The gnats constantly walked all over the scouts, driving them crazy, even when they were wearing bug spray; however, some scouts knew that putting dryer sheets on the backs of their necks actually did a good job of repelling the insects.

Boy Scout Troop 718 meets every Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Switzerland Community Church on State Road 13. The troop regularly works on rank advancements, both in patrols and as a whole troop. New scouts are always welcome to visit. For additional information, please contact John Morley, scoutmaster, at 377-6669.

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Dancing to raise the roof!

The Five Star Veterans Center needs a new roof, estimated to cost \$135,000. To begin fundraising for this project, an evening of fine dining, ballroom dancing and entertainment in the Continental Ballroom at the Ramada in Mandarin is planned for Friday, October 17. There will be a large selection of quality raffle items and the proceeds from their sale will be donated to the center for their new roof.

The center is the only facility in Jacksonville that currently supports 24 veterans with PTSD and/or Traumatic Brain Injury. The mission includes safe and secure transitional housing, career counseling, meals and reintegration for all post 9-11 homeless veterans in need of assistance to return to independent living. Their website is: www.5starveteranscenter.org

"The Harvest Moon Ball is intended to support our veterans in a tangible way," says Dr. Aloma Noble, organizer of the event. "It is also an effort to encourage residents of Mandarin and Julington Creek to take advantage of fine dining and dancing more often. It may even generate interest in a dinner-dance club in our community."

Noble has a professional dance background. Recently

she teamed up with ballroom dancing champion William Brand, also an instructor, well-respected for his knowledge of all ballroom dances and for his ability to work with individuals, couples, and groups. Their performance in October will highlight the evening's entertainment.

Host dancers will be available at the event to dance with unescorted ladies as well as with ladies whose husbands are reluctant to dance themselves. There is an extra fee of \$10 (payable at the door) for this opportunity to dance with these "stars."

Reservations and remittance must be received by October 3. Call 262-4621 for reservations and information.

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A group of volunteers for the Betty Griffin House got together and prepared invitations that are now in the mail for the annual benefit/fashion show luncheon, "Runway for Safety," to be held on Tuesday, September 30 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort. Also included is a guest speaker and a silent auction. The cost is \$55 per ticket and reservations are required; please email florieadiu@aol.com or call 543-1086. Pictured are Susan Serafini, Betty Golden, Teresa Pattee, Karen Sheltz, Florie Adiutori, Ellen Levy, Susan Feightner, Sammi Rumsey and Erika Rumsey.



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Retirement community breaks ground on construction

Today, leaders from around the greater Jacksonville community and executive leadership from Westminster Communities of Florida participated in the ground-breaking and ceremonial "turning of the shovels" for Westminster Woods on Julington Creek's new Northpoint building, featuring 25 waterfront apartment homes with beautifully appointed amenities and finishes.

This addition to our active senior-living community is the latest phase in enhancing our Continuing Care Retirement Community, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in June. It signals the commitment of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek to continuing to serve senior adults in the greater Jacksonville community and to continuing to provide excellent choices in living options for today's seniors. Northpoint is expected to cost \$6.2 million and we expect to select a contractor soon.

"We are thrilled to be celebrating the groundbreaking for Northpoint," said Janet Herron, regional vice president

of operations. "The addition of these apartment homes will help us continue Westminster Woods on Julington Creek's 50-plus-year mission of serving senior adults."

Chief Operating Officer Garry Hennis highlighted the contribution Westminster Woods on Julington Creek makes to the greater Jacksonville area.

"This community's 450 residents and 215 employees contributed 46,000 hours of volunteer service in 2013," Hennis said. "Northpoint means that \$6.2 million in investment will be generated for the local economy, with 25 waterfront apartment homes with beautiful views."

"I believe that this is a sign that this area is moving ahead," said Dr. JoAnn Nolin, a member of the board of directors of Westminster Communities of Florida and a professor at the University of North Florida. "Westminster Woods on Julington Creek does such a wonderful job of promoting wellness... It's very important to age in a healthy and active environ-



Janet Herron, Westminster Communities of Florida regional vice president of operations; Garry Hennis, Westminster Communities of Florida chief operating officer; Mr. and Mrs. Noble, first depositors for Northpoint; Ron DeSantis, U.S. Representative; Dr. JoAnn Nolin, member of the Westminster Communities of Florida board of directors and a professor at the University of North Florida; Cyndi Stevenson, St. Johns County Commissioner; and Nicole Muller, vice president of sales and marketing. Photo by Rocky Tabyanian for Westminster Woods on Julington Creek

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ment." United States Representative Ron DeSantis was one of the 10 individuals who dug up a ceremonial shovel—full of dirt. "I really appreciate how this community embraces an active lifestyle," said DeSantis.

"Thanks to the Westminster Woods on Julington Creek community for all that they have done for the St. Johns community," said St. Johns County Commissioner Cyndi Stevenson, another attendee who helped dig up the earth.

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Cunningham Creek Plantation POA report

By Contributing Writer Linda Stuart

School has started and it seems that routines have been established. Please continue to be careful driving. Our children walk in our neighborhoods. All of our children sixth grade and over are walking to and waiting at bus stops. For them, being with their friends is their first consideration. We need to be very careful when we see bus stops. There could be a bit of horseplay that might have a student going into the street or for a latecomer running to get to the bus stop. In our development everyone must stop for a stopped school bus, no matter which way you are going.

Play the house numbers game. Ask a neighbor to find your house numbers. Check your watch to see how long

it takes. What difference does it make? When you need fire rescue because someone has stopped breathing or is having a heart attack or stroke, then it makes a very big difference. Try putting your house numbers in several places—on your mailbox or mailbox post on several sides, over your garage, on the side of the door or on a column.

The lakes require special care to keep the algae in control. Several factors are involved. The board has employed professionals to maintain them, but it is up to us help. Right now, there are heavy algae blooms in some areas. If they are right on the edge on your lawn, it would help if you would take them out of the water. The professionals we employ spray the algae, but then it

drops to the bottom of the lake and decomposes. The fish in the lake are sometimes not able to keep up with the amount of algae and then we have even heavier algae blooms.

The lawns and gardens need to be fertilized, but please only use the minimum that is required. For those who live on a lake, it is important to limit the amount of runoff into the lakes.

The Cunningham Creek Property Owners Association board had a meeting scheduled for August, but due to a combination vacation and illness there were not enough members present to make a quorum, so there was no meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 29. Look for the signs to check the date and meeting place.

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Join the World Golf Village Toastmasters Club!

By Contributing Writer Shari Cartwright, DTM, World Golf Village Toastmasters #1314871



Do you: Have a fear of speaking in public? Have to give presentations at work or other organizations? Want to improve your English as a second language? Want to improve your interviewing skills? If you said yes to any of the above or just want to improve your communication and leadership skills, plan to join the World Golf Village Toastmasters Club! For 90 years, Toastmasters International (www.toastmasters.org) has provided a proven way to practice communication and leadership

skills in a nurturing, supportive environment.

On August 19, we held our club level Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests. We want

to congratulate David Sturgis, winner of the Humorous Speech contest and Shari Cartwright, winner of the Evaluation Contest. They move on to compete against winners of other clubs on October 4 at the Area 62 contest held at the Haven Hospice in St. Augustine. Good luck, David and Shari!

The World Golf Village Toastmasters Club meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the First Florida Credit Union (entrance in back

of building) located on County Road 210 West. You can also get more information on our website <http://worldgolfvillage.toastmastersclubs.org/> or like us on Facebook by searching

for World Golf Village Toastmasters.

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Marine Corps League presents Award

By Contributing Writer Charlie Myers, Adjutant, Oldest City Detachment #383, Marine Corps League

"Do a Good Turn Daily" is a core scouting precept. It seems that lately most of the media is devoted to what is not made in America. Is there even focus on the character that is still made in America? Too often our young citizens are cast in a dark and negative shadow and good citizenship is seldom recognized.

The essence of character "still made in America" is Eagle Scout Chase Banks of BSA Troop 345. Banks is a 2014 recipient of the "Good Citizenship Award" presented on August 5 by the Oldest City Detachment #383, Marine Corps League, St. Augustine.

Banks is a graduate of St.

Augustine High School, with his favorite subject being science and has started his semester at St. Johns River State College to attain an associate degree. With interests in fishing, soccer and football, Banks desires to someday acquire his captain's license and skipper his own fishing charter. The Oldest City Detachment #383 is proud to recognize such devotion and motivation which is in the spirit of the United States Marine Corps motto "Semper Fidelis (always faithful)."

Character is not truly measured by what one does, but by what one does when no one is watching! Congratulations, Eagle Scout Chase Banks!



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Helping Hands update

By Contributing Writer Jackie Valyou



Helping Hands puppy, Adele with her trainer.

The Craft Fair on September 6 for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) was a huge success. There were over 20 booths filled with all types of merchandise for sale and everything was well received. There was lots of "oohs and ahhs!" All items were made by Helping Hands members, who worked for over eight months to make this event happen. Representatives of CCI, families that have received a dog and, of course, the dogs were on hand to greet everyone. There was a

"Kissing Booth" open for puppy kisses as well as refreshments for sale. Many thanks to Faith Community Church for the use of the community center and the following community partners who donated food and beverages: Publix, Entemann's, First Florida, Papa Johns, Winn Dixie and our Helping Hands members. We would also like the community to know we appreciated their patronage and helping to make this day an unforgettable one with all their support.

Future plans for the rest of the year include Trick or Treat bags for October, Thanksgiving baskets and a Shoebox Christmas for the area's homeless.

Helping Hands is a volunteer organization that meets last Friday of each month except November and December to do a small project for those less fortunate. The group has no dues, officers or stress and collects no money. They rely solely on donations of goods and services. Their motto is, "We do what we can with what we have" and membership is always open. Please contact Jacqphil@aol.com for more information or like us on Facebook.

Helping Hands of St. Johns County will be meeting on Friday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m. at Faith Community Church Community Center on County Road 210 West. This month's project will be in honor of National Childhood Cancer Month. The group will be making pillowcases for area children's hospitals and donated to the ConKerr Cancer Foundation. This is a nationwide project that provides a bright, whimsical, cartoon or child's fabric pillowcase to a child with cancer. Pillowcases made will go to Nemours, Wolfson Children's Hospital and Proton Beam Therapy Center. Any new fabric that would lend itself for a cheerful pillowcase would be appreciated. The group will also continue their tradition of decorating small trees for Christmas for Community Peds and families, a project that they have done for past six years. Anyone wishing to donate a small, artificial two- to three-foot tree or decorations may contact jacqphil@aol.com. The group has donated over 250 trees over the last six years. They are used at Community Peds Christmas party and then given to the families to take home.

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Bartram Trail Newcomers' and Women's Club plans October luncheon

By Contributing Writer Susan Moger

The Bartram Trail Newcomers' and Women's Club (BTNC) will host their next luncheon on Tuesday, October 14 at St. Johns Golf and Country Club, located off County Road 210 in St. Augustine. The total cost for the lunch is \$18, including tip and tax. More

information will be emailed to members at a later date. Doors will open at 10:45 a.m. and a cash bar will be available. The deadline for checks is October 1. Please make checks payable to BTNC and mail them to: Arlene Roffman, 307 Edgewater Branch Drive, St. Johns, FL 32259.

The BTNC meets the second Tuesday of every month from September to May at various local restaurants for lunch. In addition to the monthly meetings, the club has a wide variety of interest groups. There are various card groups (bridge and canasta), golf, recipe exchange, special event outings, game day (Mexican Train), bunko, Mah Jongg, book clubs, lunch and matinee, lunch divas, couple/individual dinner out and a nature walk group.

For club information, please contact Vice President of Membership Mary Beth Reid at hmbreid@yahoo.com. Please come and join us!

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Creekside Knights Athletic Booster Club update

By Contributing Writer Debby McKernan, CKABC

Are you ready for some football, cheerleading, band, dance, volleyball, cross country, golf, swimming and diving? Well the many athletes of Creekside High School are, thanks to the constant support of the Creekside Knights Athletic Booster Club (CKABC) under the direction of president, Anne Marie Gennusa and in coordination with Guy Harris, athletic director.

The Creekside Knights Athletic Booster Club's main purpose is to provide cooperation of home, school and community in support of all of the athletic programs of Creekside High School.

The 2014 membership drive is currently underway. All stu-

dent athlete families at Creekside are strongly encouraged to help further the success of their athletic programs by joining Boosters at any of the levels of membership. The booster club also relies heavily on the support of business and community sponsors. Please contact CKABC at www.creeksideknights.com/ if you are interested in helping the CHS student athletic programs.

Another way to help support the Creekside Knights Athletic Booster Club and athletes of CHS is to join your family and friends at the State Road 13 PDQ Chicken Community Nights from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. PDQ Chicken will generously donate 10 percent of all

sales on these nights to CKABC.

Get your Creekside spirit wear! Don't buy the knock-offs...Williams Athletics is authorized and now carries authentic Creekside High School spirit wear! The Kings Closet will also be open for business at select sporting events throughout the school year.

Further information about the Creekside Athletic Booster Club or upcoming events may be found on the website at <http://www.creeksideknights.com>

Go Knights!

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Chabad offers services geared for Jews of all backgrounds

Just a couple of weeks before Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year and one of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar, there are still many Jews who have no plans to attend synagogue services.

Some are not affiliated with a synagogue, others will be travelling on business and a sizable percentage simply don't feel comfortable in a synagogue setting. Another alarming issue, particularly in light of today's flailing economy, is that many cannot afford the cost of services, which can run a whopping thousand dollars or more for a family of five.

Whatever the case is, many would-be worshippers are feeling the pangs associated with being left out of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar. Chabad of St. Johns County, the local branch of the largest Jewish outreach organization in the

world, has its own High Holiday services option, providing free Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in a warm and inclusive setting.

Chabad's services are "user-friendly," making it enjoyable and meaningful for everyone. Song, commentary and the use of English-Hebrew prayer books enable those of all levels to become active participants in the services.

"According to Jewish tradition, on the Jewish New Year, the doors of Heaven are open. G-d accepts prayers from everyone," said Chabad Rabbi Mendel Sharfstein, who is hosting free services in St. Johns. "The least we can do is open our doors as well, to the entire community."

Rabbi Sharfstein continued, "Judaism should be accessible to all Jews. During the Jewish High Holidays, accessibility can translate into different factors

for different people, such as a non-judgmental atmosphere, affordability of the services, or the ability for a beginner to follow along. Our goal is to lower the barriers of entry, and encourage each and every Jew to actively participate in these most holy and introspective days."

Rosh Hashanah begins this year after sundown on September 24 and extends until nightfall on September 26. Yom Kippur begins after sundown on the eve of October 3 and extends until nightfall on October 4.

For more information about Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and our New Year Dinner please visit www.JewishSJohnsCounty.com/newyear. To find High Holiday services in hundreds of cities throughout the world, visit www.JewishSJohnsCounty.com/HighHolidayServices.

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Introducing the new priest at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Rhonda Willerer, also known as "Mother Ronnie," and her husband Max were welcomed to St. Patrick's on March 30 by an enthusiastic parish of loving people. Mother Ronnie (as some in her congregation call her, but she welcomes people to call her Ronnie) considers herself a cradle Episcopalian who grew up in Jacksonville. She graduated from the University of North Florida with a degree in philosophy and received her Master of Divinity from the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee.

When asked what she loves about the Episcopal Church, her answer is, "I love so many things: 1) the consistency of the scripturally based liturgy, 2) how the Episcopal Church welcomes questions, 3) the inclusiveness of the community, 4) the outreach and commitment to helping others and 5) the tradition that is rooted in the faithful journeys of our ancestors."

She further explains, "This world is ever changing and as we come together each week and move through the liturgy of the worship service I feel a connection to a faithful and loving God who promises to be with us in our joys and in our struggles. It has been said many times that the Episcopal Church doesn't ask us to 'check our minds at the doors.' We come together as a parish family, seeking to discern God's will for our lives. We support and encourage each other as life is often challenging. "The inclusiveness is so

very important... all are welcome! All are also cared for. At St. Patrick's, we have a special ministry that cares for those who need our help, called 'Feed My Lambs.' Working with the Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County, we collect bags of groceries every month that are delivered to families in need in south St. Johns County. This month we are also collecting school supplies for the children of those families. We may be small in number, but we are big in heart.

"Lastly, the tradition of the Episcopal Church is rich, not only with the history of the Christian Church, but also the history of the United States. It's quite profound to visit some of our national faith landmarks and see that they are Episcopal Churches. Imagine walking through the streets of Williamsburg, Virginia and walking into Bruton Parish Episcopal Church and seeing the names of several United States Presidents on the pews. The history of the Episcopal Church is rooted in the history of our country. I think this is very cool!"

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church offers the Holy Eucharist each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and has begun a new offering of story time and creative movement for young ones called Stories and Smiles each Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

For more information, please visit www.stpatricksepiscopal.org or call the church office at 287-2807.



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LUNAR PHASES

Full: September 9
Last Quarter: September 16
New: September 24
First Quarter: October 1





Faith News

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

The pumpkins are coming! On Sunday, September 28 at 1:00 p.m., the first truckload of pumpkins will arrive at the **River of Life UMC's Pumpkin Patch**, located at 2600 Race Track Road. It will take around four to five hours to unload the pumpkins. The Patch will officially open at 5:00 p.m. The second load will arrive on Thursday, October 16 at 4:30 p.m. If there are any students who need service hours, you are more than welcome to come out on September 28 or October 16 in your grubby clothes and tennis shoes to help unload the pumpkins, then talk to Becky Kimball for additional hours available. The Pumpkin Patch will again offer Field Trips for preschoolers, VPK, elementary school, play groups and Scout groups. The field trips last about an hour and the cost is \$1.50 for the purchase of a "spooky" size pumpkin to decorate, so if you are looking for fall activities for your group, please contact Becky Kimball at 254-7325. The patch will also have picnic tables, photo opportunities, coloring sheets, books to read and games to play if you just want to come out for a family outing.

invite the community to worship with them at 9:00 a.m. At 6:00 p.m. they will host an Italian dinner at the church. All are welcome. Proceeds from a free will offering will go to Christ's Cupboard, a food pantry that helps those in need in the community. If you are interested in attending, please call 230-2496.

The Women's Ministry of Swiss Cove Christian Church would like to invite the ladies and teen girls of the community to join us as we host Teen Challenge's director, Amanda Taylor and the girls from the Hosanna House on Wednesday, October 1, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Learn what this program is all about and how it is making a difference in the lives of these young women. Teen Challenge is a faith-based rehabilitation program for individuals who struggle with drug addiction, alcoholism and other life-controlling issues. Swiss Cove is located at 1965 State Road 13 in St. Johns. For more information, please call 287-5795 or email jpaxton@swisscovechristian.com

River of Life UMC's 14th annual free Family Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 18 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to enjoy free entertainment, hotdogs, chips, drinks, hay ride, train ride, bouncy house and slide, face painting and balloon animals.

Celebration Lutheran Church, a Bible-based, confessional Christian church of the Missouri Synod, located at 810 Roberts Road will celebrate National Back to Church Sunday on September 21, 2014. They

Pumpkins, gourds, hay and baked goods will be for sale. Please note that the Pumpkin Patch only accepts checks and cash. River of Life UMC is located at 2600 Race Track Road. Looking forward to seeing you there!

The Mandarin United Methodist Church is having their **25th annual Fall Craft Festival** on Saturday, October 4 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in our Family Life Center and throughout our campus at 11270 San Jose Boulevard. We will have 100 crafters with a big variety of handmade items from jewelry and pottery to paintings, clothing and food and lots more. There will also be a Bakery, Country Store and a Kids Store where they can buy their own holiday gifts. So come early, stay for lunch and bring your friends for a fun day!

At Geneva Presbyterian Church, **"GECKO"** stands for Geneva's Extremely Cool Kids Organization. GECKOS is a Wednesday night program offered to children ages four years old through fifth grade. We have Bible study, do crafts, play games, perform skits and just generally have lots of fun. There is something for everyone. We also do other special activities

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during the year such as a talent show, "Trunk or Treat" and a food scavenger hunt to collect food for the needy. We hope you will come and join us for GECKOS - we have Fellowship dinner each Wednesday at 6:00

p.m. and then GECKOS meet from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you would like more information, please contact the church office at 287-4865. Hope to see you there!

Geneva Presbyterian offers new Bible studies this fall

By Contributing Writer Teri Batchelor

Now that the children have gone back to school, it's a great time to get back into the routine of attending worship and Bible studies. Geneva Presbyterian Church is pleased to offer several options for Adult Bible Study this fall.

On Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. we offer a new adult class beginning September 7 in the Pastor's study. The class will be co-led by Tom St. Clair and our parish associate, Rev. Charlie Landreth. "Faithful Christians through the Ages" will focus on a variety of Christians, who, having lived the "gospel" in vibrant, meaningful and imaginative ways, made major contributions to the Christian tradition. From St. Augustine through Fanny Crosby and Mother Teresa to Billy Graham, the men and women we will study are each in their own way a living text of scripture, an agent of the Spirit through whom God reminds us how we should live our lives. All adults in the community are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings for this new and interesting study.

Each Wednesday night we offer a Fellowship Dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. We enjoy a delicious meal and a time of fellowship. Following dinner, at 7:00 p.m. we have an adult class led by our pastor Rev. Joe Albright that is studying the Book of Genesis.

Our Presbyterian Women also have special Bible studies planned for the fall. Our morning circle which meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. will be reading a Horizons Bible Study "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians." We invite all women in the area to join us for a time of fellowship and Bible Study. We also have

an Evening Circle that meets once a month for dinner and studies various topics.

We hope you will join us for one or more of our new Bi-

ble studies and for worship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Please call the church office at 287-4865 for more information.

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Captain David's Fishing Report

By Contributing Writer Captain David Lifka

Finally, it all seems to be coming together. Shrimp are in the river and so are the fish that follow. Due to this year's weather, we seem to be in a pattern that was more common in decades past, rather than what we have seen in more recent summers. If the current pattern continues to hold, shrimping should only get better in coming weeks, followed by some pretty good fishing into early or late fall.

Our spring and summer weather are major contributing factors to our shrimping seasons each year. Too much rain could mean little or no shrimping, while a lack of rain could mean

an earlier, longer and more widespread shrimping season. This year's regular reoccurring summer rains are more in line with the weather patterns of the '70s through the early '90s when you didn't even bother to get the net out of the shed till August.

With the shrimp being on schedule you can assume the fishing will follow suit. In decades past you didn't expect croaker to show with any size or numbers till late July. This has already been the case this year with Virginia Croaker making the scene at the end of July and first days of August of this year. The croakers have steadily

gotten bigger and more plentiful and should continue to do so as the long as the shrimp run thrives.

Just like decades past you had to wait till after the shrimp had begun to run for the other species of fish that love to eat shrimp to make their presence known. And if you haven't been fishing lately, it too is already happening. From black drum to redfish, flounder to trout, black bass and channel cats, both freshwater and saltwater species are biting everywhere from Green Cove to downtown Jacksonville.

Yes, it's finally coming together, the shrimp, the fish and the weather. Barring any tropical deluges, the upcoming weeks looks promising just as they did decades ago.

Fishing Report: Time to shrimp and load the freezer (save and freeze the smaller ones for bait). Fish everywhere in the river. Docks, bridge pilings, points, holes and sandbars all will produce a variety of fish. Be sure to use live or fresh caught dead shrimp from the river. Live shrimp can be fished anywhere you fish by using them on a float rig, jig head, split shot and leader or a deep water bottom rig.

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

CHS Sports Roundup

By Kassie Solms, CHS Student

As the summer sunshine starts to draw back, leaves begin to fall and the weather begins to cool as we head into our fall season. For the Creekside sports department all fall sports have been working hard all summer and some even since the end of last year. Every single team has been preparing themselves to bring their "A game" to the battle front this season.

The Knights football team has been conditioning and training all year round for the winning season. This year might just become "Knight Time" for every team the Knights go up against. Come out and cheer on the Knights varsity team at home on September 19 as they battle it out against Nease at 7:00 p.m. The next two following games will

be away at Fletcher on September 26 and Matanzas on October 3. The junior varsity team will be going up against Fletcher at home on September 25! Let's bring the Creekside Crazy's back up to the stands and send our team as much support as possible.

Both the girls' and boys' cross country teams have been conditioning for the past three months to shield any competition out of the way this year. Our top 10 varsity members on both the girls and boys team will be heading to North Carolina for the Great American XC Invite early next month, October 4 and 5. Other meets this month are the UF Mt. Dew Invitational on September 20 and on September 27 at Bartram Trail will be the Bale-N-Trail meet. Come out and sup-

port the cross country runners at Bartram! Encourage them to continue to push their bodies to the limits.

The volleyball team has a couple of exciting games coming up this month, so get ready to mark your calendars. The varsity team plays St. Augustine on September 23 and Pedro Menendez on September 25. Both games will be played at home, so come out and support your Creekside Knights volleyball team at 5:30 p.m. for JV and 6:30 p.m. for varsity.

With all the training our athletes continue to put in year after year, we are only going to get better. So go ahead and take your suit of armor and charge this year ahead of you at full speed. Let's go Creekside Knights. Watch out Bears, the Knights are invading.

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• Computer literate in most medical billing software
• Must have a team player attitude, energetic, with a focus on excellent customer service
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EWL

Continued from page 1

chance to earn an income. EWL will pay women business owners to distribute EWL-furnished disinfectants for them to give away to local community members.

"I've worked with scores of women in Monrovia and in surrounding communities and villages. These are brave women who campaigned for peace during the war and are helping rebuild what was lost. It breaks my heart that for lack of simple sanitary supplies and basic practices, many of them could succumb to this awful disease and turn back the clock on much progress," explained Timbol.

In order to address these two basic needs, EWL began a GoFundMe.com campaign called "Bucket Brigade against Ebola." Through the campaign they aim to raise \$60,000 to send to their network of trusted contacts in Monrovia. Because of this campaign and the efforts of their EWL board members, nearly

\$30,000 was raised in a little over two weeks.

"Today I began the process of sending our first installment of \$10,000 to our friends in need. This is a great response, but it is truly only a drop in the bucket ... no pun intended," Timbol said.

The need is great and will continue for perhaps as long as a year. The director of the CDC said recently that the Ebola crisis is out of control and it will require a global response to stop it.

"I want to tell you 'thank you' for your interest in this topic," Timbol concluded.

We pray this article will bring more awareness of the "Bucket Brigade against Ebola" to our community. To learn more and donate, please visit www.empowerwomenleaders.org or www.facebook.com/EmpowerWomenLeaders.

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Homebuilder to open Siena at Town Center

ICI Homes is preparing to begin sales at Siena with a special event on Thursday, September 25 at its newest neighborhood of Siena at Town Center in Nocatee located off Nocatee Village Drive and Town Plaza Avenue in Ponte Vedra.

Don Wilford, North Florida division president, said ICI Homes plans to build 85 new homes at Siena at Town Center in a variety of floor plans ranging from 1,500 square feet of living area to 3,000 square feet, with prices starting in the mid-

\$300s. Three models are now underway and will be completed in December.

Siena at Town Center will offer Mediterranean, Tuscan and Spanish front elevations and unique features like rear alley entry garages, front porches and courtyards. Residents at Siena at Town Center will be a short walk from Nocatee's Town Center and have access to all of the community's recreational amenities including a splash water park, fitness club and community park.

Wilford said a special Realtor Luncheon is scheduled at Siena on September 25 as well as an evening event for those on the VIP interest list on the same day from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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

Bartram Trail Athletic Booster Club awareness

By Contributing Writer Robb Gallitz, BBABC Communications Director

Bartram Bears Athletic Booster Club (BBABC) is in full swing and ready for another great year of sports. The BBABC is a 501 C3 non-profit organization comprised of parents, grandparents, coaches, student athletes, faculty, alumni and community members. Our goal is to ensure that BTHS athletes and coaches have access to quality equipment and resources, thus enabling them to become and remain competitive in all areas of high school athletics.

BTHS does not receive any county, state or federal funding. These programs are 100 percent funded and supported by the families, staff and supporters of BTHS. Bartram Trail has one of the lowest pay-to-play fees, but we hope that those who can will join our booster club and help out however possible; it is critical to the school's athletics program.

Funds have been and are continuing to be used for uniforms, warm-ups, equipment, all bus transportation, summer maintenance, weight room equipment, turf maintenance and

countless other items and special requests by coaches and the athletic director.

Last year eight out of 32 teams (junior varsity and varsity cheer, junior varsity and varsity volleyball, boys' junior varsity and varsity soccer, junior varsity softball, and girls' varsity lacrosse) had 100 percent membership and five more teams were above 90 percent membership. As a whole, 74.5 percent of the Bartram families were booster members. To learn more about what the BBABC can do for our children, please visit www.bartramathleticboosters.com or contact Candida Chisholm at candidachisholm@bellsouth.net.

We strongly encourage everyone to sign up now for one of the several membership levels available so you know all the events going on throughout the school year. Donations welcome to support our children.

The BBABC would like to congratulate the following class of 2014 Bartram Trail student athletes that will be playing sports this fall at the college level:

Name	Sport	College
Maggie Borngesser	Basketball	US Air Force Academy
Hannah Giangaspro	C.C. Track & Field	Univ. of South Carolina
Ian Safar	Football	Methodist University
Jesse Burkett	Football	Stanford University
Malik Rivera	Football	Wofford College
P.J. Blazejowski	Football	Furman University
Travis Keller	Football	Stetson University
Will Tillo	Football	Southeastern University
Hannah George	Golf	Hanover College
Jordan Batchelor	Golf	University of North Florida
Austin Betros	Lacrosse	Mt. Olive College
Caroline Beggs	Lacrosse	Cawtawba College
Dalton Cook	Lacrosse	Cawtawba College
Hailey Heggblod	Lacrosse	FL Institute of Technology
Michael Wires	Lacrosse	Cawtawba College
Courtney Schell	Soccer	Auburn University
Jessica Potts	Soccer	High Point University
Lauren Small	Soccer	Alderson Broaddus University
Madison Caldwell	Soccer	Florida Atlantic University
Savannah Markey	Soccer	Limestone College
Jordan Daniels	Softball	Jacksonville University
Kelsey Chisholm	Softball	Georgia Tech
Makala Quinn	Softball	Southeastern University
Taylor Aguayp	Softball	University of North Florida
Julianna Pettinger	Swimming	FL International University
Austin McDonnell	Track	Stevens Institute of Technology
Nicole Williams	Volleyball	Indian River State College
Sarah Ragland	Volleyball	Palm Beach Atlantic College



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Nursing home awarded seventh Gold Seal



the Gold Seal Award.

The two-year award was presented to Marsha Pollock, president of the River Garden Home Board and Loyd Lyle president of the Resident Council by Polly Weaver, Chief of Field Operations for AHCA, the Agency for Health Care Administration. More than 125 people were in attendance for the presentation ceremony.

Created in 2002, the Gold Seal Program recognizes Florida nursing homes that "demonstrate excellence in long-term care over a sustained period, promotes the stability of the industry and facilitates the physical, social, and emotional well-being of nursing home facility residents."

River Garden Hebrew Home has continuously held this recognition since it was created in 2002 by the Florida Legislature.

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

River Garden Hebrew Home for the Aged was recognized with a seventh Florida Governor's Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long-Term Care. Of the more than 650 nursing homes in Florida, River Garden is the only skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility to earn this distinction seven consecutive times and the only agency in Duval County to ever earn

Aruba: One Happy Island

By Contributing Travel Writer Debi Lander, www.bylandersea.com



The outing rambles through arid hills, immense cactus fields and some of Aruba's most striking views of the ocean crashing against the rugged shoreline.

The safari tour stops amid sandy dunes at the California Lighthouse, although the structure is no longer safe to climb. Then, it continues to bump along the ruddy coastal road passing a magnificent golf course and

Fly to Queen Beatrix International Airport in Oranjestad and your passport will be stamped: Bon Bini! Welcome to Aruba - One Happy Island. That slogan has become the mindset of the Caribbean isle. On Aruba, visitors are warmly received, encouraged to relax on white-sand beaches, laze in 80-degree temperatures and meet some of the warmest people in the world.

The island lies 15 miles north of Venezuela in the tropical waters of the southern Caribbean. The location becomes strategically important because it places the destination just below the hurricane belt, making the climate dry and eliminating the chance that major storms will disrupt plans.

Aruba is small, just 19.6 miles long and six miles across, assuring ease of transportation. While Dutch is the official language, English and Spanish are widely spoken. Papiamentu, the local language, mixes Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, French, English and African dialects. The Aruban florin is the official currency, but the American dollar can be used everywhere.

First impressions often come from the Fofoti trees near the airport, the unofficial island mascots. Typically, windy breezes stir the air and the constant trade winds sculpt the trees into graceful, southwesterly bending forms. Look for them all over the isle.

A Jeep or ATV tour along the northeast coast or windward shore showcases a totally different side of Aruba. The contrast from the Palm Beach hotel area was so dramatic, I almost felt I was no longer in the Caribbean.

onto rocky shores. You'll see tiny fishermen shacks scattered near the seacoast. They aren't much to look at, but add an authentic feel. One of the most popular things to do is build a rock cairn, a miniature wishing rock pile or statue to mark one's personal passage through the area

Jeeps also stop by the lovely Alto Vista chapel, built by Spanish missionaries and stone ruins of the old Burhiribana gold mines.

My tour drove on to the once famous, coral limestone Natural Bridge, which collapsed in 2005. Parts of the natural wonder still remain and the views are photo worthy. A visit to the Natural Pool followed; a circle of rocks and volcanic stone full of colorful sea life. Here, you'll have the option to take a dip. The day culminated

with the climb of the Casibari Rock formations.

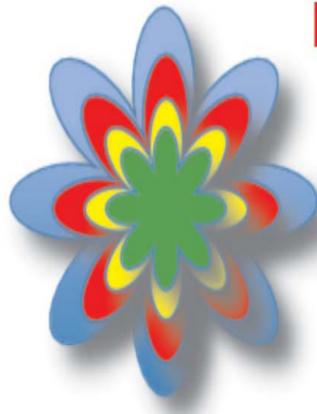
Other activity choices include the Aloe Museum and Factory, the Butterfly Farm and, of course, shopping 'til you drop.

In 2000, United States Customs built a new state-of-the-art building for United States only departures. Many flights

pre-clear United States immigration and customs in Aruba, a boon for those traveling to the States.

Aruba's

popularity has remained constant, due not only to sun, sand and sea, but also to the hospitality and friendliness of its people, safety, political stability and variety of activities, nightlife, shopping and dining. No wonder Aruba, One Happy Island, remains the most revisited destination in the Caribbean.



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Coast Guard announces Boating Safety Course

By Contributing Writer Bob Schultz, Flotilla 14-7 Public Affairs Officer

Flotilla 14-7 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary will be presenting "About Boating Safely," a course for both beginners and experienced boaters that will give the participant the knowledge to obtain the Florida Boating Safety Education Identification Card. The course is offered on Saturday, October 4, at the St. Augustine Campus of St. Johns River State College, located at 2900 College Drive (off State Road 16) in St. Augustine, starting at 7:45 a.m. and lasting until 5:00 p.m.

Please note that Florida law requires that all persons born on or after January 1, 1988, when operating a vessel powered by 10 horsepower or more,

must have in their possession a Florida Boating Safety Education Identification Card. For details on this and other legal requirements, please visit the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Website at MyFWC.com.

Students must register prior to the class by contacting Vic Aquino at 392-6414. Early registration is recommended as space is limited.

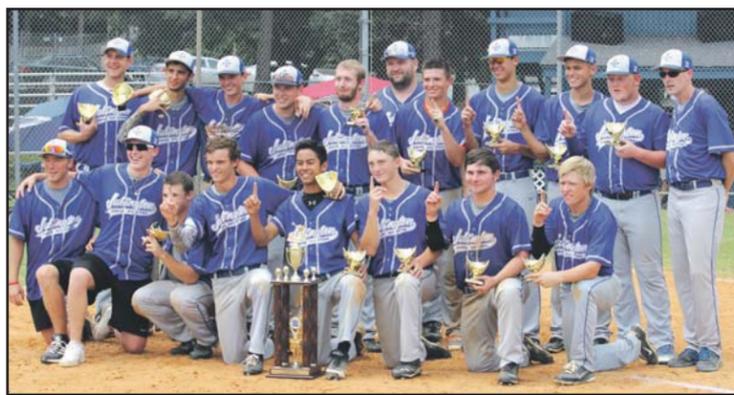
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JCB 18U All-Star team claims Florida state title

The Julington Creek All-Stars claimed the 18U Babe Ruth Florida state title in Tallahassee on Sunday, July 13. Stellar pitching and defense as well as solid hitting earned the team a spot in the championship game against Tampa-FishHawk.

The championship game saw FishHawk jump out to an early 5-0 lead. They held that margin until the fifth inning, when JCB began chipping away at the deficit.

With FishHawk up 5-2 going into the bottom of the seventh inning, Patrick Tybor started the JCB rally with a single to Center Field. Preston Townsend reached on a shot to left field. Adrian Ybanez came in to pinch run for Townsend. Zack Smith sat on a two strike hanging curve ball, driving it into right field, scoring Tybor. After being hit by a pitch, Cole Chouinard was awarded first



base. Cameron Stoinoff walked, driving in Ybanez, cutting the FishHawk lead to 5-4.

Michael Truby then came to the plate with bases loaded. He promptly laced the second pitch into right field, driving in two runs for a dramatic 6-5 walk-off victory for the JCB 18U Babe Ruth team.

After the game, Coach Jeff Smith said: "I was proud of the guys. It was a total team effort,

with contributions from each player throughout the weekend. They never gave up. They just kept chipping away, believing in each other, knowing that they could get it done."

The next stop for the team is the Southeast Regional Tournament in Andalusia, Alabama on July 23. The winner of that tournament moves on to the national Babe Ruth 18u tournament in Washington State.

World Golf Hall of Fame presents inaugural World Golf Village Golf Festival

The inaugural World Golf Village Golf Festival is a day-long event celebrating what makes the game great. It will feature interactive activities throughout the day, with something for golf fans of all ages including appearances by Hall of Fame members, a Demo Day at Slammer and Squire, unique playing experiences and golf movies at the World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater. The entire event is free to the public and will be held on Saturday, October 4 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. throughout World Golf Village.

The PGA TOUR Grand Champions, a group of former PGA TOUR stars including Hall of Fame members Gene Littler and Doug Ford, will be on site.

They will be interacting with fans during panel discussions in the Hall of Fame and at a clinic on the Slammer and Squire driving range.

The Hall of Fame will be open for free all day and feature tours of its new exhibitions with official historian Dr. Anthony Parker. There will be a Closest to the Pin contest for prizes at the Hall of Fame's Challenge Hole, including divisions for men, women and children. From 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, guests will be able to play Nintendo Wii Golf on the museum's big screen and there will also be activities for children based on Science of Golf, the Hall of Fame's education program.

The Demo Day at Slammer and Squire will begin at 10:00

a.m. and include representatives from PING, Nike, Titleist, Callaway, Oakley and TaylorMade. From 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m., the Grand Champions will conduct a special, interactive golf clinic on the driving range. That will be followed with a free golf experience from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Players will be allowed to play the Slammer and Squire with Tee It Forward advanced tee boxes and expanded, 8-inch wide golf holes. (Tee times are free, but space is limited and must be reserved in advance.)

The PGA TOUR Academy will be on site throughout the day with a series of unique golf challenges. Guests will be able to play golf cornhole, participate in the long drive contest on the inflatable outdoor simulator and try the extreme flop shot competition. At the Academy itself, there will be a Women's Clinic from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., featuring a clinic from GOLF Magazine Top 100 Instructor Anne Cain, women's golf fashion for purchase, and a special wine tasting.

For the movie buffs, there is a full schedule of golf movies at the IMAX Theater, including "Happy Gilmore," "Tin Cup" and "Caddyshack."

Throughout the day there will be plenty of family-friendly activities, including local food trucks along the Walk of Champions from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., live music from local artists Ryan Campbell and the Charlie Walker Band from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. and bounce houses and beginner golf activities from The First Tee for children.

"We are thrilled that the partners here at World Golf Village and the PGA TOUR Grand Champions are part of this event, which is the first of its kind in Northeast Florida," said Jack Peter, chief operating officer of the World Golf Hall of Fame. "There are so many things that make golf a wonderful game, and they'll be on display throughout the Golf Festival. We encourage golf fans of all ages to join us."

For more information on the World Golf Village Golf Festival, please visit WorldGolfHallOfFame.org.

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**Bartram Trail High School
2014 Varsity Schedule**

Location/ Opponent	Time
8-22-14 @ Mandarin	7:00 pm
8-29-14 @ Bishop Kenny	7:00 pm
9-5-14 Fleming Island	7:30 pm
9-19-14 St. Augustine	7:00 pm
9-25-14 @ Seabreeze	7:00 pm
10-3-14 F.W. Buchholz	7:00 pm
10-10-14 Ponte Vedra	7:00 pm
10-17-14 @ Creekside	7:00 pm
10-24-14 Matanzas	7:00 pm
10-31-14 @ Nease	7:00 pm
11-7-14 @ Ridgeview	7:00 pm



**Creekside High School
2014 Varsity Schedule**

Location/ Opponent	Time
8-22-14 @ Rickards	7:00 pm
8-29-14 Sandalwood	7:00 pm
9-5-14 @ Sante Fe	7:00 pm
9-12-14 Palatka	7:00 pm
9-19-14 Nease	7:00 pm
9-26-14 @ Fletcher	7:00 pm
10-3-14 @ Matanzas	7:00 pm
10-10-14 Ridgeview	7:00 pm
10-17-14 Bartram Trail	7:00 pm
10-24-14 @ St. Augustine	7:00 pm
10-30-14 @ Fleming Island	7:30 pm



**Nease High School
2014 Varsity Schedule**

Location/ Opponent	Time
8-22-14 Fletcher	7:00 pm
8-29-14 Ponte Vedra	7:00 pm
9-5-14 Fernandina Beach	7:30 pm
9-12-14 @ West Nassau	7:30 pm
9-19-14 @ Creekside	7:00 pm
10-3-14 @ St. Augustine	7:00 pm
10-10-14 @ Pedro Menendez	7:00 pm
10-17-14 Matanzas	7:00 pm
10-23-14 Arlington Country Day	7:00 pm
10-31-14 Bartram Trail	7:00 pm
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Gardening: Summertime blues

By Contributing Writer Master Gardener Lesley Arrandale with Duval County Extension, University of Florida/IFAS

It's a fairly common theme amongst gardeners – the search for those true blues that are relatively rare in the plant kingdom. Pink, orange, red, yellow and a multitude of shades in between are comparatively easy to find, but not so many blue flowers.

Interest in a blue rose, for example, can be dated from an Arabic author, Ibn Al Awwam, writing on agriculture in the 12th century, when a gardener would have simply dyed a white rose by introducing color into the root system. Nowadays so-called blue roses are more likely to be lilac or some similar

shade. There is one unique blue rose, however, developed by introducing a gene for delphinidin, a primary plant pigment, along with two other genetic alterations. Apparently this still produces a rose more strictly lilac, but there is the potential to make it a true blue, if the developer can only modify the pH of the rose!

Getting back to basics, for spring-blooming true blues try blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) and the earlier bulb, starflower (*Iphieon uniflorum* "Rolf Fiedler"), both of which are low-growers, lovely near the front of a border. Sum-

meritime blues include lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus africanus*) and the large shrub *Vitex agnes-castus* or chaste tree, which is a superb insect attractant. If a smaller shrub is needed, try *Caryopteris x clandonensis* var. "Longwood blue," which bees also love. Mophead hydrangeas like "Nikko blue" will only reliably produce blue flowers given a soil pH of 5.5 and below.

There are a number of salvias that fit the bill, including two hardy cultivars of *Salvia guaranitica*, "black and blue" and the paler "Argentine skies." The native *S. azurea* is a later bloomer, with a rather gangly habit, so to enjoy its beautiful sky-blue flowers just deal with its failings by either staking it or planting it amongst sturdier things to keep it from flopping.

Other perennial north American natives to try are *Baptisia australis*, or blue false indigo, and amsonias, either *A. hubrichtii* (bright blue) or *A. tabernaemontana* (lighter blue). Both amsonias have fine foliage which turns a pretty yellow in the fall.

The delphinidin gene, as you may guess, is present in delphiniums, which range from white through pale blue to the deepest blue. They are a little difficult here, but if planted out as soon as they become available they can be beautiful come spring. Since the flower spikes are tall and top heavy they really need staking, so they aren't for those of us who are minimally inclined to fuss. Perhaps an easier relative to try is the shorter annual larkspur, *Consolida ajacis*. A range of colors is available which includes some good blues and seeds can be sown in the fall.

With August and September upon us you don't need to be reminded that the fall vegetable garden needs some attention. Now would be a good time to use some compost, preferably home-made, or well-rotted leaf mold, to beef up your soil. The more humus, the better. We can still plant some of the warm season vegetables; try a few of your favorites, referring to the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021>), but make sure you have a plan in place for cool season veggies. I love broccoli and after harvesting the main head I leave my plants to grow side shoots, tender miniatures resembling the main crop, for weeks afterward. Such an easy bonus.



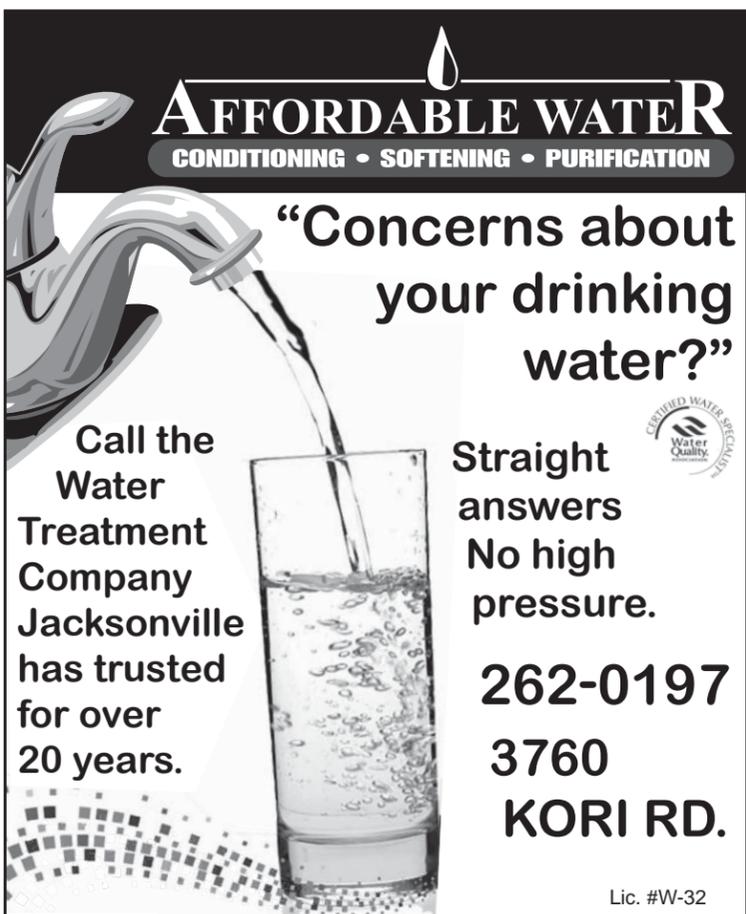
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Good Deed Brigade

A true commitment to youth soccer and excellence: Sean Bubb

By Contributing Writer David Wolf, founder, the Good Deed Brigade



North Florida is the now the home of one of most successful and energetic youth soccer coaches and leaders in the United States. Sean Bubb was recently hired as the executive director of Creeks Soccer, the third largest youth soccer organization in the State of Florida.

He served as a staff coach of the University of North Carolina - Charlotte from 1989 to 1992. Bubb built powerhouse clubs in North Carolina (1989-2005) and Texas (2005-2014).

As noted by Bubb, "Soccer is a great sport. The bigger picture in life is to help guide and teach the children so that they can be successful now and later in life in whatever endeavor they choose to pursue."

In 2011, Bubb was named National Youth Soccer Coach of the Year. This honor was presented by the NSCAA (National Social Coaches Association of America). The NSCAA has grown into the world's largest coaches' organization that serves members at every level of the game.

Bubb arrived here in North Florida in the heat of the July

2014 summer and hit the ground running. Yes, he put on his cleats (better known in England as "boots") and immediately began training with his coaching staff and the various teams engaged in a summer pre-season training program.

Bubb explained, "I expect both the coaches and players to not only be on time, but to be early to practice and prepared to put in a solid training at every session. A commitment to excellence is the foundation to any successful soccer program. I came to Creeks Soccer to build champions and a world class youth soccer program."

As part of his plans in North Florida, Bubb will be organizing and hosting tournaments and events that will bring in groups and teams from near and far. One of Bubb's goals is to make North Florida a recognized hub for other youth soccer organizations nationally and abroad. This, in turn, will be a significant economic boost for North Florida on an annual basis which will continue to grow over time.

Bubb is a man who stands by his word and knows about priorities in life. He accepted the position at Creeks Soccer because of the wonderful family-oriented community of the St. Johns area. The St.

Johns County School District is among the top school systems in the State of Florida. Bubb made sure that the move was not only good for him, but also for his wife (Amanda) and his two children (Zane and Chanelle).

According to Bubb, "There is so much potential for success right here in North Florida. I had my choice of many opportunities, but saw this one with Creeks Soccer as the best one to build a program that we all can be proud of."

Bubb was impressed with the entire Creeks Soccer program, staff and volunteers.

As so wonderfully said by Bubb, "I believe that there is a place for players of every skill level at Creeks Soccer. It is both my honor and responsibility to lead Creeks Soccer. I thank the club and St. Johns County community for welcoming my family to the area."

On and off the pitch (aka soccer field), Sean Bubb is here to make a difference and build upon the successes of Creeks Soccer.

If you have a story to share about your good deeds or the good deeds of others in the community, please email us at GoodDeedBrigade@gmail.com or visit our Contact Us page on the official website, www.gooddeedbrigade.com/



Congratulations to Preston Shields, who took first place at the First Coast BMX facility in the World Golf Village area. Shields raced in the Novice five-to-eight-year-old division and won two out of the three events during the night race on July 31 to claim his first victory. Most competitors are part of a father/son or father/daughter team since the sport is one of the most fun for all ages and sizes of competitors. First Coast BMX, located at 3060 Allen Nease Road, is open to the public for practices and races.



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Loggerheads have new head age group coach



Julington Creek Loggerhead Aquatics (JCLA) of St. Johns has hired Shawn Delifus as its new head age group coach.

Coach Delifus will lead the Loggerhead age group program under head coach Mark Corley.

Delifus comes to JCLA from

the Blue Eagle Swim Team of Pennsylvania. Previously he coached two years at the YMCA of Central Florida in Orlando and five years at the YMCA of Florida's First Coast in Jacksonville. Delifus also coached at the collegiate level as an assistant coach with the NCAA women's team at the University of North Florida. He graduated in 2007 from the University of North Florida with a degree in Sports Management. Delifus is a member of the Florida swimming diversity commit-

tee and has been active in the community striving to create awareness for the sport and enhancing the development of equal opportunities for those who love it.

His combination of swimming knowledge and proven record of success has earned him an ASCA Level 4 certification. He has instructed all levels of swimmers and the list of their accomplishments is impressive:

- Several first time top-10 swimmers at both YMCA

Nationals and Age Group Championships.

- Six top-10 nationally ranked age-group swimmers.
- Two state record holders.
- The 2010 state of Florida Swimmer of the Year.
- Four Olympic Trial qualifiers.

Delifus's understanding of what it takes to develop outstanding swimmers is well documented. He places a strong focus on stroke technique progressions combined with long-term strength conditioning. Everywhere he's been, he's

made his swimmers better.

Delifus stated, "Loggerhead Aquatics has the potential to develop one of the best programs in the country and take the next step into the future of swimming."

Head coach Mark Corley couldn't agree more, saying, "Teamed with our existing coaching staff, we are now perfectly positioned to build on the success we've enjoyed in our first six years and achieve new levels of swimming excellence."



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3301 West Banister Rd.
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This lovely and spacious home is situated on a corner lot with a screened lanai that overlooks the landscaped backyard.
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MYRNA STRAIN 904.436.1324



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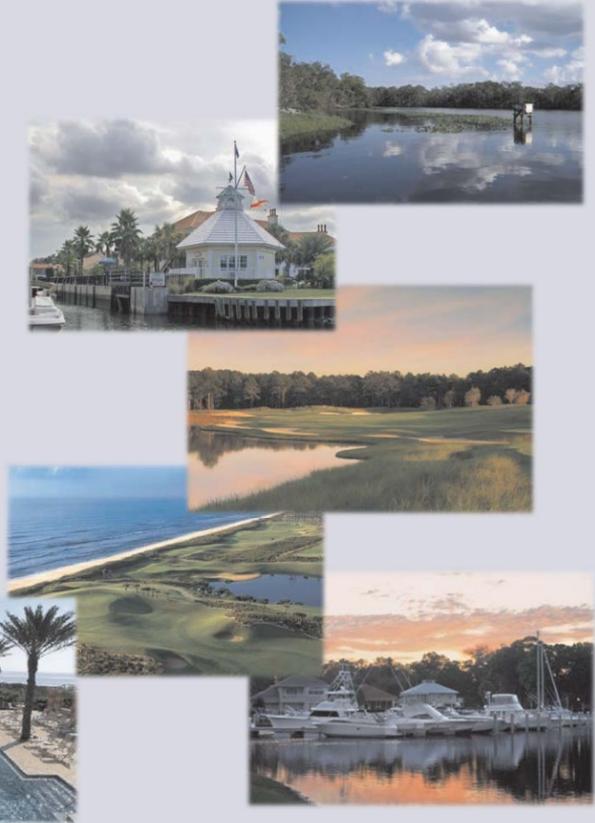


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