Mandarin NewsLine
SERVING THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY SINCE 2006


Volume 8, Issue 2
Visit our online edition at www.mandarinnewsline.com
November 2013

Autumn means it’s time for the Fall Festival and Chili Cook-Off
By Martie Thompson

In addition to the signature event, the chili competition, there will be an arts and crafts show, featuring local and seasonal items. This would be a great time to get those fall decorations for your house or perhaps start your holiday shopping! There is still room available for those crafters wanting to participate; please contact Mark Goldwich at 406-7232 for booth requirements.

Entertainment will be ongoing throughout the event. Music will be provided by Larry Magnum’s TLC Band. A bounce house and face painting for the kids as well as a silent auction will be happening all through the day.

Be sure to come hungry, as some of the community’s best chili cookers will have their delicious concoctions available. If you would like to show off your chili skills and favorite recipe to your neighbors, you need to stew up three to five gallons to share with the crowd and judges. Arrive early, no later than 1:00 a.m., as table locations are first come, first served. Decorating your booth is very important, so you can enhance your guests’ and the celebrity judges’ dining experiences! Be sure to call Mark Goldwich at 406-7232 to learn more about becoming a contestant. It is definitely worth the effort as there is a “Best in Show” prize of $500.

But the Mandarin Fall Festival and Chili Cook-Off is not just about eating and fun. This annual event, over the years, has raised thousands of dollars for local charities and chili cookers will have their delicious concoctions available.

Native Sons and Daughters make sure the cars are squeaky clean

Native Sons and Daughters is a group that has been planning to participate in the Mandarin Community Club’s fall festival and chili cook-off. Sons and Daughters members will be on hand to offer tours of the Old Post Office and General Museum to the Historical Building.

Who’s Inside
Page 3 What’s New
Page 4 From the City Councilman
Page 5 Your Vote Your Voice
Page 6 E. Pluribus Unum
Page 7 News Programs for JSCC
Page 8 City of Jacksonville
Page 9 Civic for one and all
Page 8 MHS Homecoming
Page 9 Libraries circulation grows
Page 10 Toastmasters
Page 10 Women’s Club News
Page 11 Lecture on Kennedy Assassination
Page 11 Mustang Band
Page 13 Our Fitness Winner
Page 16 Senior Newsline
Page 20 MHS Sports Roundup
Page 21 Mandarin Garden Club
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 23 Jax Farmers Market

What’s New

Important milestone of the Mandarin Community Club. For new (or long time) area residents who have wanted to know more about the club or to see the inside of the club’s two historic buildings, this would be a perfect time to visit. Anyone with photos, news articles or stories relating to the club or the Mandarin community over the years is encouraged to bring them and add to the historical displays.

For further information, please visit mandarincommunityclub.org or call the club office at 268-1622.

Native Sons and Daughters parent and child members of the Timucuan Federation recently held a car wash to help support “The Apple Project,” a local initiative which has taken on the task of raising money to build a local dental clinic for local families. The car wash, held on September 29 at the Walgreens on State Road 13 and Race Track Road, raised $600 for The Apple Project.

More than three dozen Native Sons and Daughters members washed everything from vintage cars to RVs. Since the Native Sons and Daughters program, formerly known as Indian Princesses and Indian Guides, requires their members to participate in community service in order to be eligible for year-end recognition, this cause is a wonderful way to help the community.

Event host Andrew “Eagle Feather” Stainby explains, “This event is a great way to show our members that not every child has the benefit of Native Sons/Daughters cont. on pg. 14

Mandarin Community Club to hold open house November 17
By Contributing Writer Lynn Cuda, Mandarin Community Club

The Mandarin Community Club will hold an Open House on Sunday, November 17 from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. as part of its 90th anniversary celebration. All club members and the community at large are invited.

Historic information and artifacts of the club and the Mandarin community will be on display. Refreshments will be served including a special anniversary cake, with the cake cutting set for 2:00 p.m. Members of the Mandarin Museum and Historic Society will be on hand to offer tours of the Old Post Office and General Store and the Ancient Oaks Arts and Farmers Market will be open that afternoon as well. By special arrangement, several antique cars will be displayed on the MCC grounds and available for viewing at no charge. Please help us mark this important milestone of the Mandarin Community Club. For new (or long time) area residents who have wanted to know more about the club or to see the inside of the club’s two historic buildings, this would be a perfect time to visit. Anyone with photos, news articles or stories relating to the club or the Mandarin community over the years is encouraged to bring them and add to the historical displays.

For further information, please visit mandarincommunityclub.org or call the club office at 268-1622.

San Marco Art Festival
November 16th & 17th, 2013
Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm
Located on San Marco Blvd. in San Marco, FL.

For more information call 904-306-8580 or 561-746-6695
www.ArtFestival.com

What’s Inside

Page 23 Jax Farmers Market
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 21 Mandarin Garden Club
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 23 Jax Farmers Market

What’s Inside

Page 3 What’s New
Page 4 From the City Councilman
Page 5 Your Voice Your Vote
Page 6 E. Pluribus Unum
Page 7 News Programs for JSCC
Page 8 City of Jacksonville
Page 9 Civic for one and all
Page 8 MHS Homecoming
Page 9 Libraries circulation grows
Page 10 Toastmasters
Page 10 Women’s Club News
Page 11 Lecture on Kennedy Assassination
Page 11 Mustang Band
Page 13 Our Fitness Winner
Page 16 Senior Newsline
Page 20 MHS Sports Roundup
Page 21 Mandarin Garden Club
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 23 Jax Farmers Market

What’s Inside

Page 3 What’s New
Page 4 From the City Councilman
Page 5 Your Voice Your Vote
Page 6 E. Pluribus Unum
Page 7 News Programs for JSCC
Page 8 City of Jacksonville
Page 9 Civic for one and all
Page 8 MHS Homecoming
Page 9 Libraries circulation grows
Page 10 Toastmasters
Page 10 Women’s Club News
Page 11 Lecture on Kennedy Assassination
Page 11 Mustang Band
Page 13 Our Fitness Winner
Page 16 Senior Newsline
Page 20 MHS Sports Roundup
Page 21 Mandarin Garden Club
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 23 Jax Farmers Market

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Page 3 What’s New
Page 4 From the City Councilman
Page 5 Your Voice Your Vote
Page 6 E. Pluribus Unum
Page 7 News Programs for JSCC
Page 8 City of Jacksonville
Page 9 Civic for one and all
Page 8 MHS Homecoming
Page 9 Libraries circulation grows
Page 10 Toastmasters
Page 10 Women’s Club News
Page 11 Lecture on Kennedy Assassination
Page 11 Mustang Band
Page 13 Our Fitness Winner
Page 16 Senior Newsline
Page 20 MHS Sports Roundup
Page 21 Mandarin Garden Club
Page 22 US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Page 23 Jax Farmers Market
MORE THAN $140,000 IN DONATIONS

Your contributions at Firehouse Subs restaurants helped make these local life-saving donations possible. Thank you.

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Ocean Rescue
$12,552

Neptune Beach
Police Department
$17,500

Atlantic Beach
Police Department
$31,680

St. Augustine
Fire Department
$3,600

St. Augustine Beach
Police Department
$19,100

Atlantic Beach
Police Department
$3,600

Friendship Volunteer
Fire Department
$3,750

The Friends of Hendricks
$2,008.00

American Red Cross
Volunteer Life Saving Corps
$8,120

St. Augustine Beach
Police Department
$19,100

YMCA of Florida’s First Coast
$27,500

Ocala Police
Department
$7,500

St. Augustine Beach
Police Department
$31,680

Friendship Volunteer
Fire Department
$3,750

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We will even refinance your existing high-rate auto loan from another lender and save hundreds of dollars in interest!

* APR = Annual Percentage Rate is effective as of 10/18/2013 and may change without notice. All loans are subject to final credit approval. Rate includes automatic transfer discount of 0.25% APR, otherwise the rate will be adjusted upward by 25% APR. Terms are payment as low as $17.50 per $1,000 borrowed. Longer terms are available at slightly higher rates.

** Award offer expiring on December 31, 2013 and do not apply for indirect loans or loans already booked. $200 cash back offer on loans of $10,000 or more.
The Mandarin Toastmasters Club is having an Open House on Saturday, November 2, at 10:15 a.m. If you have ever wanted to check out a Toastmasters meeting, please come and join us for our open house! There will be refreshments and great company! On Saturday, November 16, the meeting will be Giving Thanks and will include a potluck social immediately following the meeting. The Mandarin Toastmasters club meets the first and third Saturday of each month in the South Mandarin Library, located at 12125 San Jose Boulevard and meeting time is 10:15 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The meetings are open to all and visitors are always welcome.

The Scrabble Club meets every Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Mandarin Branch Library. For more information, please contact Georgiana at gilherz@comcast.net.

The fourth annual Craft Fair at the Mandarin Garden Club will be held on November 9 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the club, located at 2892 Loretto Road. There will be a wide selection of beautiful and unique crafts just in time for your holiday gift shopping. Delicious homemade baked goods and a barbecue lunch are also available to purchase. After shopping and eating, enjoy strolling the beautiful garden club grounds. For more information, please visit www.mandaringardenclub.org or call 268-1192.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will hold their monthly program on Thursday, November 21 beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn, located at 3130 Hartley Road. The speaker following their luncheon will be Lisa Meadows, the Estee Lauder manager at Dillard’s at the St. Johns Town Center, who will discuss skin care needs for women 40 and older. The price to attend is $14; reservations are required and can be made by calling Martilyn at 260-8431 by Thursday, November 14. The Mandarin Women’s Club is a social club with numerous activities and is open to all women no matter where they live. For further information about the club and how to join, please call Diane at 880-5354.

The South Mandarin Branch Library presents Bilingual Stories for Babies each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Stories for Young Children each Friday at 10:30 a.m. followed by Art for Young Children at 11:00 a.m. Please call 288-6385 for more information.

The All Star Quilters Guild will hold its annual Quilt Show and Craft Sale on Saturday, November 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church, located at 11924 San Jose Boulevard. There will be quilts on display, a raffle for a quilt, vendors, food, drinks and baked goods. For more information, please contact Mary Ann Dennis at 387-4440 or visit www.orgsites.com/JlAllStarquiltguild.

The next meeting of the Dogwood Circle of the Mandarin Garden Club will be on November 19 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Attendees will learn to make holiday centerpieces with Tamer Britton, a University of Florida and Duval Extension Agent for 35 years. Visitors are always welcome! For additional information, please visit www.mandaringardenclub.org or call 268-1192.

What’s New

Community Happenings

Do you have community or club news you would like included in Mandarin NewsLine? Please contact Martie Thompson at editor@mandarinnewsline.com or 866-4919.
Mandarin news: I am pleased to report that after many months of delay, the Jacksonville City Council has finally voted to allow a cell tower on Albert’s Field. Not only does this mean better cell reception for Mandarin’s Verizon customers, it also means that the city will receive a minimum of $25,000 per year—money that can only be spent in Mandarin. The agreement also includes a provision for a 4 percent annual increase in rental rates. With any additional cell phone carrier that utilizes the tower, Mandarin receives an additional $750 per month. This is only the second cell tower installed on city-owned property which generates revenue for the specific district. In my opinion, the city should aggressively pursue other opportunities that would allow cell towers on public land. The income generated from this would greatly benefit all 14 districts and assist with unmet needs.

City Hall news: Even though I voted against the millage rate increase, it passed overwhelmingly, 16-2. Unfortunately, this vote did not and will not decrease our property tax rate. This is the lowest in the state, however, if you consider the hidden taxes we all pay through our JEA bills, we actually have one of the highest millage rates in the state. Let me explain. Every year for the past 12 years, JEA has contributed money directly to the city coffers in lieu of property taxes. This year, JEA’s contribution is $109 million. That equates to an additional 2.5 mills that is hidden in your electric rates and that’s on top of the franchise and utility taxes that are already listed on your bill. So the next time you hear someone say our millage rates are too low, you can absolutely say that they are wrong! Please do not hesitate to contact me at MattS@coj.net or 630-1388.

Let us know!
editor@mandarinnewsline.com

From the City Council Member’s Desk
By Contributing Writer Matt Schellenberg, City Council Member, District 6

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Mandarin Park, near the tennis courts at the park entrance. Beginners are welcome. Just show up, unless it rains.

The MOMS Club of Jacksonville offers support for stay at home and part-time working moms living in zip code 32258. With the club you will have enriching activities for you and your children, during the day when you need the most support. A sample of activities includes park days, beach days, monthly socials, playgroups and field trips to the zoo and museums. For additional information, please email semandarinmom@yahoo.com.

The Mandarin Branch Library presents Saturday Sunshine on Saturday, November 23 at 2:00 p.m. and the Graphic Novel Book Club for Kids on Thursday, November 14 at 4:00 p.m. And don’t forget about Stories for Young Children each Thursday at 3:30 p.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please call the children’s department for program information at 262-9201.

The November general meeting of the All Star Quilters Guild will be held on Monday, November 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the First Christian Church, located at 11924 San Jose Boulevard. The program will be “Meet the Chari ties.” Visitors are welcome. For more information, please contact Dot Butler at 642-6574 or visit www.origestes.com/rallstarsquilt guild.

The Friends of South Mandarin Library recently met after the library’s monthly Book Club meeting. Two new members were present and both offered personal stories of how the library had served as their computer source for study and a resource. A business meeting covered bylaws, coming elections of officers and sending speakers to organizations to seek support for the library. The children’s department of the library will be the focus for our group. Ideas for selecting toddler-friendly furniture were discussed and in the next meeting we will look at types of available furniture. The meeting ended with refreshments provided by the library staff in appreciation of our support for the South Mandarin Library. We welcome new members to join us! For additional information, send an email to friendsmandarinlibrary@gmail.com or call the library at 288-6185.
With the holidays right around the corner, the Elections Office is diligently relocating the Election Center to One Imeson. One Imeson is the future home of where our office will store the election equipment, where poll worker training will be conducted and where the call center will be located. Last month staff began boxing up election equipment, supplies and training tools, as well as electronic voting machines to be taken to their new home at One Imeson. One Imeson property offers:

- $573,000 savings in first year
- Total savings of $3.3 million over 10 years
- Easily accessible from Interstate 95, Interstate 295 or Main Street
- Two thousand parking spaces
- Located on a city bus route
- Four loading docks for moving election equipment
- Exclusive use of secured loading docks
- One story building, maximizing efficiency

One Imeson presents another opportunity for our office to convey the voice of the people by providing fair, accurate and accessible elections with transparency and integrity. The move to One Imeson will be complete by the early part of 2014 with an open house and tour of the new warehouse, call center and training facility. One Imeson will cover the moving bill of around $100,000, as agreed in the new lease. Although the Election Center is moving to One Imeson, early voting will continue in the Gateway Community for future elections. Our office kick-started our "Connect with Us in 2014" campaign encouraging voters and citizens to be a part of the election team by becoming involved in the electoral process and working with us on election day. Check out our billboards around town or stop by our registration tables in the community to pick up some information on working with us in 2014. For more information visit our website and click on the "Connect with Us in 2014" link.

As Supervisor of Elections, I encourage residents to register and participate in the electoral process by providing fair, accurate and accessible elections with transparency and integrity. The move to One Imeson presents an opportunity for our office to convey the voice of the people by providing fair, accurate and accessible elections with transparency and integrity. The move to One Imeson will be complete by the early part of 2014 with an open house and tour of the new warehouse, call center and training facility. One Imeson will cover the moving bill of around $100,000, as agreed in the new lease. Although the Election Center is moving to One Imeson, early voting will continue in the Gateway Community for future elections. Our office kick-started our "Connect with Us in 2014" campaign encouraging voters and citizens to be a part of the election team by becoming involved in the electoral process and working with us on election day. Check out our billboards around town or stop by our registration tables in the community to pick up some information on working with us in 2014. For more information visit our website and click on the "Connect with Us in 2014" link.

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District reaches historic high with class size despite increase in student enrollment

On Friday, October 18, the Florida Department of Education began its process of reviewing class size numbers for school districts across the state. Duval County Public Schools, one of the state’s most heavily penalized in last year’s class size review, will show an increase of 15 percentage points in class size requirements. This improved rate of 9 percent is the highest level of class size compliance for the school district, which also saw an enrollment increase of more than 3,600 students this academic year and over 1,600 since the 10-day count.

This was an impressive logistical undertaking by our organization considering the size of our district and the unexpected increase in student enrollment. We worked extremely hard and strategically with a spirit of collaboration to ensure that we reduced our class size penalty, thus using more of our resources for students and creating stronger learning environments for our students, teachers and caregivers,” said Nikolai P. Vitti, superintendent.

“We also achieved this improvement by dramatically expanding our elective offerings in music, art, and acceleration programs. Our elective offerings in music, art, and acceleration programs our elective offerings in music, art, and acceleration programs. Financially, classrooms, and eliminating acceleration programs. Financially, it would have cost the district an additional $15 million at the elementary level alone. I am proud of everyone who made this happen.”

Political Commentary

E Pluribus Unum
By David Milton

Many of you are probably familiar with Martin Frank- lin’s exhortation to signers of America’s Declaration of Independence to hang together or face the possibility of hanging separately. Although Franklin’s quote is over 200 years old, the principle remains: overcoming daunting challenges often requires people to work together.

This month’s question basically asks whether all of Jacksonville south of the St. Johns River should become a separate political entity from all of Jacksonville north of the river. Here’s the short answer: no way.

In 1967, Duval County’s voters voted overwhelmingly to consolidate the city and county governments to eliminate corruption and inefficiency (as much as any human institution can eliminate corruption and inefficiency).Undoing that vote and all the work that has gone on since then by chopping Jack- sonville into two separate cities would present too many practi- cal problems. For starters, south Jacksonville would have to create its own city government, police force, fire departments and public works departments. Creating those new entities (and the many other entities necessary for a functioning local government) would require lots of time and money and, once created, could easily result in waste and inefficiency.

Not only would the division of our city cause problems, but Jacksonville’s 50 years of unity offer benefits. One of those bene- fits is efficiency. For example, instead of multiple police forces with overlapping jurisdiction, we have a single police force.

Another beneficiary of our uni- fied city is the business com- munity (and everybody else who works for a business in some capacity, which means most of us). Instead of going through multiple local governments to expand within the county, businesses can plan to grow in Jacksonville knowing they can get the necessary local permits from a single source.

Recent studies – and perhaps our own common sense – identify strong cities as the engines of competitive economies. Those same stud- ies recognize the contributions competitive economies make to cities. Chopping Jacksonville into two pieces would interfere with whatever progress we have already made.

For those reasons (and for many more too numerous to list here), no serious city leaders are suggesting a split. That said, there’s nothing wrong with a conversation about effectiveness of our consolidated government. The right to a robust debate is a birthright for Americans. And there are plenty of top- ics to debate. There are always some complaints about the size of Jacksonville’s pension needs significant work: and Downtown Jacksonville, despite all its development, still needs help.

There’s another problem we need to discuss: consolidation sometimes makes it hard for local communities like Mandarin to retain some of their distinctive characteristics (although I suspect this might have something to do with the eagerness of some City Council members to beg for any kind of growth in any part of the city, regardless of the consequences on local communities). To the extent that consolidation makes it difficult for Mandarin to re- tain its character, consolidation must be fixed. One of Jacksonville’s strengths is the variety of its neighborhoods. Yes, there are differences within Jacksonville, but the fact that we are different doesn’t mean we should divide our city.

Dave Milton is a husband, father and local attorney who’s interested in doing his part to make sure Jacksonville is a city where every person feels at home and every person has a chance to pursue his or her American Dream. When Dave isn’t with his family or at work, he’s in- volved with his church, scouting and other civic and non-profit organizations. If you have any thoughts or other comments to share, please email Dave at davdmilton@gmail.com.

### Political Commentary

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**Cindy Maule**
(904) 260-7071
Specializes in color and highlights.

**Joann Loschielvo**
(904) 403-7803
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9735 Old St Augustine Rd #21
(Across from Big Lots)

**Jonice Vincent**
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Specializes in color and highlights.

Enjoy Song & Beauty Up Close And Personal
Soccer club introduces exciting new programs

Jacksonville Youth Soccer Club (JYSC) has been serving the greater Jacksonville community since 1975 and is the area’s oldest continuously running soccer club. JYSC services over 2,000 youth players annually and has well over a 100 teams. With the present asset, it is also a huge barrier, even with seven bridges crossing within city limits. It’s not uncommon for residents of Mandarin or anywhere in Southside to rarely cross the river, because they live and work on this side of the river. The part of Jacksonville on this side of the river has the majority of shopping, the majority of upscale and upper middle class homes and businesses and many of the professional government offices. The south side of the St. Johns River is downtown, Riverside, Avondale, Ortega, Springfield and the developments around Jacksonville International Airport.

The south side of the St. Johns River is the heartland of Jacksonville and the reason most new companies and residents relocate here. Think north and east of the river there is a South Jacksonville City Hall perhaps in San Marco. The tax base is there to support a city government.

With the present city government we have a bloated, overpaid, overly large city council of 19 members. We have an overpriced and overpaid downtown at the expense of other neighborhoods where people actually live, work and play. Studies argue, not many would argue. We have a constant tug of war between the interests of the Northwest and Westside versus the interests of the Southside, Mandarin and the Beach.

What does a resident of Mandarin have in common with anyone on the Northside or Westside? Not many, other than local taxes being raised, a too large local government and a professional football team which may not win a game this season. If a city of South Jacksonville still existed, there would probably be better city services, better local libraries and the grass in roadway medians would be mowed more often.

For those who argue big is better, think that other urban areas in Florida which exist just fine with more than a single city government. St. Petersburg and Clearwater all exist nicely together and, as strange as it may be, have two strong daily newspapers. The City of Miami exists within Miami-Dade county. That’s a county with six other city governments which are all healthy. Broward County has Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Pompano Beach and other governments.

The list goes on in Palm Beach County, Orange County and even in Volusia County with Deltona, Ormond Beach and Port Orange growing west to meet the ever growing Deltona with Deland sandwiched in, too.

Our fate was sealed in 1932 because the Acosta Bridge was the great unifier for Jacksonville. Too bad the real estate developers of San Marco and San Jose didn’t resist the temptation.

J. Bruce Richardson is a longtime journalist and consultant who writes in Jacksonville print publications exclusively for RT Publishing, Inc. He has led projects in Washington as well as Ottawa, Canada, and authors an Internet-based transportation column which is read in more than 60 countries. He lives and works in Jacksonville.

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Are your children ready for a global future?

The world is getting smaller. Colleges and companies are looking for active global citizens. CISV offers opportunities at international and local summer programs to build leadership skills through experiential learning, primarily for kids ages 11 to 15. CISV will help your child develop “anything is possible” attitude, leadership and communication skills and an understanding of the world around them. Join us for an information session at the following places and dates:

Sunday, November 10 at 3:00 p.m. • Riverside/Avondale - 115 Seminole Avenue, 32205
Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. • South Mandarin Library - 12125 San Jose Boulevard
Saturday, November 16 at 2:00 p.m. • Ponte Vedra Beach Library - 101 Library Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach
Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. • Southeast Regional Library - 2485 Greenwood Park Boulevard
Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. • Ortega - 4730 Prince Edward Road, 32210.

CISV is a non-profit, independent, non-political, all volunteer peace education organization focused on inter-cultural learning. We aim to help our participants develop the skills they need to become informed, responsible and active global citizens and make a difference in their communities and the world. The glue that underpins all of our programs is friendship, in which we found our belief that peace is possible through friendship and mutual understanding.

For more information, please visit www.cisvjax.org.

Political Commentary

Geographic bliss: City of South Jacksonville

By J. Bruce Richardson

In terms of geography, Jacksonville is the largest city in the Lower 48 states. We live in a big place with lots of diversity in many different ways. Dream a “what if” moment: what if the city of South Jacksonville, incor- porated in 1922 and dissolved by Jacksonville in 1932, remained an independent city?

While the St. Johns River remains a huge barrier, even with seven bridges crossing within city limits. It’s not uncommon for residents of Mandarin or anywhere in Southside to rarely cross the river, because they live and work on this side of the river. The part of Jacksonville on this side of the river has the majority of shopping, the majority of upscale and upper middle class homes and businesses and many of the professional government offices. The south side of the St. Johns River is downtown, Riverside, Avondale, Ortega, Springfield and the developments around Jacksonville International Airport.

The south side of the St. Johns River is the heartland of Jacksonville and the reason most new companies and residents relocate here. Think north and east of the river there is a South Jacksonville City Hall perhaps in San Marco. The tax base is there to support a city government.

With the present city government we have a bloated, overpaid, overly large city council of 19 members. We have an overpriced and overpaid downtown at the expense of other neighborhoods where people actually live, work and play. Studies argue, not many would argue. We have a constant tug of war between the interests of the Northside and Westside versus the interests of the Southside, Mandarin and the Beach.

What does a resident of Mandarin have in common with anyone on the Northside or Westside? Not many, other than local taxes being raised, a too large local government and a professional football team which may not win a game this season. If a city of South Jacksonville still existed, there would probably be better city services, better local libraries and the grass in roadway medians would be mowed more often.

For those who argue big is better, think that other urban areas in Florida which exist just fine with more than a single city government. St. Petersburg and Clearwater all exist nicely together and, as strange as it may be, have two strong daily newspapers. The City of Miami exists within Miami-Dade county. That’s a county with six other city governments which are all healthy. Broward County has Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Pompano Beach and other governments.

The list goes on in Palm Beach County, Orange County and even in Volusia County with Deltona, Ormond Beach and Port Orange growing west to meet the ever growing Deltona with Deland sandwiched in, too.

Our fate was sealed in 1932 because the Acosta Bridge was the great unifier for Jacksonville. Too bad the real estate developers of San Marco and San Jose didn’t resist the temptation.

J. Bruce Richardson is a longtime journalist and consultant who writes in Jacksonville print publications exclusively for RT Publishing, Inc. He has led projects in Washington as well as Ottawa, Canada, and authors an Internet-based transportation column which is read in more than 60 countries. He lives and works in Jacksonville.

Conservative estimates from the 2013 edition put the economic impact of the tournament well over the million dollar mark.

Jacksonville Youth Soccer Club has always associated and supported a number of great local initiatives including the Wounded Warrior Project and the Besseli Foundation. The club seeks local and regional partnerships with organizations to help instill a life-long habit of physical fitness, nutrition and team work, all Focused on a deep commitment to building a character’s child and giving back to our community within the “beautiful game” of soccer.

JYSC is currently registering players for the fall season and strives to have a place for all youth to play. Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!

By J. Bruce Richardson

Are your children ready for a global future?

The world is getting smaller. Colleges and companies are looking for active global citizens. CISV offers opportunities at international and local summer programs to build leadership skills through experiential learning, primarily for kids ages 11 to 15. CISV will help your child develop “anything is possible” attitude, leadership and communication skills and an understanding of the world around them. Join us for an information session at the following places and dates:

Sunday, November 10 at 3:00 p.m. • Riverside/Avondale - 115 Seminole Avenue, 32205
Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. • South Mandarin Library - 12125 San Jose Boulevard
Saturday, November 16 at 2:00 p.m. • Ponte Vedra Beach Library - 101 Library Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach
Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. • Southeast Regional Library - 2485 Greenwood Park Boulevard
Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. • Ortega - 4730 Prince Edward Road, 32210.

CISV is a non-profit, independent, non-political, all volunteer peace education organization focused on inter-cultural learning. We aim to help our participants develop the skills they need to become informed, responsible and active global citizens and make a difference in their communities and the world. The glue that underpins all of our programs is friendship, in which we found our founding belief that peace is possible through friendship and mutual understanding.

For more information, please visit www.cisvjax.org.
As I write this article, our nation’s leaders are bitterly di-
vided. Republicans and Demo-
crats blame each other for the
government shutdown and the
potential default of America’s
debt. Unfortunately, we, citi-
zens and elected officials, have
grown too accustomed to and
comfortable with this type of
typical brinksmanship. Such
finger-pointing, distrust-
and self-serving politics is child-
dish and dangerous. It lacks all
semblances of true leadership,
true public service and true
courage. Whether this immediate,
impetus has been defused or not,
we are, almost certainly, going
to revisit the same crisis again
in the near future. Without
question, this chronic afflic-
tion has rendered the national health
prognosis as critically ill.

Americans have often been
divorced and over myriad
issues. Early on, Jefferson and
Adams famously feuded within
President Washington’s ad-
ministration to such a degree
that resulted in a sentence that
so fiercely divided and over myriad
question, this chronic afflic-
tion has rendered the national health
prognosis as critically ill.

An American who was deeply divided and
fiercely attacking Republi-
cans for supporting a president
on a traitor of his own country. Republicans despised
Democrats for believing was vigilante justice
that resulted in a sentence that
greatly exceeded the crime.
America was deeply divided
and intensely distrustful.

Into this mire entered an
unrelated vice president who
subsequently became the un-
lected president. Gerald Ford,
by all accounts, never sought
or even desired the office
of president. His ambition was to
be Speaker of the House. He was
nominated by Nixon because he
represented the true Republi-
can that would be confirmed
by the Democratically controlled
Senate (to replace the resigned
President Vice Agnew in fulfill-
ment of the 25th Amendment).
Yet, many people, in that in-
ferior, controlled, believed the
appointment was in return for
a Nixon pardon, a suspicion that
was further fueled when Ford
did, indeed, issue the pardon
and one of the most selfless
acts of any president.

In his inaugural address,
President Ford, eschewing an
underlying tip of the cap revealed
by a quip in his voice, sought
to remedy America’s ailments
through humble service and
courageous leadership.

I have not sought this
enormous responsibility, but
I will not shirk it. Those
who nominated and confirmed me
as vice president were my friends
and are my friends. They were
of both parties, elected by all
of the people and acting under
the Constitution in their name.
...there is no way we can go forward
either together and no
way anybody can win except
E. Pluribus Unum cont. on pg. 9
MHS Happenings
Homecoming time

By Zoe Smolins, MHS Student
At press time, Mandarin
High students are getting
prepared for their upcoming
homecoming week. Manda-
rin’s homecoming takes place
at the EverBank Field on
Friday, October 25 from 8:00
p.m. until 11:30 p.m. Tickets
will be sold all day. His new
lunches from October
9 through 16 for $60 each.
Sophomore Savannah Mit-
ton said, “I think the tickets
are a bit expensive, but you
doesn’t mean to get your money’s
worth.”

Sophomore Erin Chatham
added, “I’m really looking
forward to homecoming
because I love getting
dressed up and it’s a time when I can
catch up with all of my
friends outside of school. It’s
going to be so much fun!”

Students will also be able
to dress up the entire week
working up to homecoming and
it is rumored that there
is to be a Duck Dynasty
da, nerd day, spirit day and old
day people.

“I am so excited about
homecoming week because I love
being able to dress up every
day,” said Tressa Bleau,
a sophomore. “I love how
inspired Mandarin is; it’s the
best!”

Thursday, October 24 is
also going to be an exciting
day for MHS students because
it is the day of the second
annual Homecoming Parade,
which will proceed down
Greenland Road again this
year and their homecoming
game against Sandalwood
will also be held that evening.

Be sure to check back in
the next issue for a full recap
of all the MHS Homecoming
activities!

Bring business
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The half-hour walk is followed
by an encouraging dis-
cussion. Anderson will talk
about the struggles of healthy living,
especially for those struggling
with weight and motivation
issues.

He emphasizes, “It is all
about simple movements. Little
steps to start with.” Keep this
distinct in mind next time you
come to the all-day movie marathon.

Anderson will be at The
Comedy Zone through 16 for three
nights of “clean” comedy. Family is a
major topic, since he grew up as
one of 11 children. He tailors his
comedy to appeal to all crowds,
without offensive or vulgar
language.

Be sure to see the ad in this
issue of Mandarin Newsline!

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Starting from left to right: Pam Parker (Off. Coordinator), Cindy Johnston (Dental Asst.), Dr. Gus Gari,
Joy Major (Dental Hygienist), Caroline (Off. Manager)

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-1*B.0EBSJO
TPVUIPG*
Kids and parents enjoyed Campfire Stories for Young Children at the South Mandarin Branch Library.

The Mandarin Book Club will be discussing The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman on Thursday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. This free workshop will help you learn how to prepare for a job or college interview and how to improve your resume. Please contact Stacey Van Hoy at 462-5201 for program information.

Attention Mandarin music lovers! Local musician Al Poin- dexter is presenting a program at the Mandarin Branch Library on Saturday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. The program includes test prep help to obtain licenses for a career as a Practical or Registered Nurse, civil service (firefighter, police officer, postal worker and railroad), teacher certification and many others. Scholarship information and an online resume builder are also available. For more information about this great database, please visit our website at jaxlibrarypublic.org.

Please note the library hours of operation for the Thanksgiving holidays. All Jacksonville Public Libraries will close at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20 and will be closed on Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22. The Mandarin and South Mandarin Branch Libraries will be open on Saturday, November 23 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

November is a time to give thanks to our brave military veterans on Veterans Day and to our family and friends on Thanksgiving. All of us at the Mandarin and South Mandarin Branch Libraries are especially thankful to the Mandarin community for their support throughout the year. We hope you and your family have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!
Toastmasters appreciate South Mandarin Library

The Mandarin Toastmasters Club presented a plaque to the South Mandarin library on October 19 in recognition and appreciation of the library’s hosting of the club’s meetings since 2006.

The Mandarin Toastmasters club meets the first and third Saturday of each month in the South Mandarin Library, located at 12125 San Jose Boulevard, at the corner of Orange Picker Road and San Jose Boulevard across from Walgreen’s. The meeting time is 10:15 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The meetings are open to all and visitors are welcome.

Beginning speakers and experienced professionals alike can benefit from this practical, face-to-face learning program. Whether you’re speaking to your kids, your friends, your coworkers, your customers or the board of directors, Toastmasters can help you do it better. You’ll learn and practice in a friendly, comfortable environment with people who are there for the same reason you are—to become better communicators and leaders and have fun doing it!

Toastmasters International is a non-profit organization which gives its members the opportunity to develop and improve their public speaking abilities through encouragement and support. For additional information about the Mandarin Toastmasters Club, please visit www.mandarintoastmasters.org or call President Morgan North at 268-9380.

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Women’s Club plays Bunco and Daytime Mexican Train

By Contributing Writer Sharon Weed, Mandarin Women’s Club

Two of the numerous activities enjoyed by members of the Mandarin Women’s Club are the third Thursday Morning Bunco Group, one of six and Daytime Mexican Train, which is when just the ladies play the always-popular version of dominoes.

This social club is a busy, busy group of ladies from all over, with members from Jacksonville, Orange Park, St. Augustine, St. Johns and Elkton. Other monthly activities are Antiques and Collectibles where members go shopping and have lunch, plus two groups playing Bridge. Dining Out is dinner at one of our lovely restaurants around town. Some of us play Mah Jongg with the funny-looking tiles, cook and share our best recipes at Recipe Exchange and go on excursions to interesting places about town with the Travel Group. One of the club’s most popular activities is Game Night, where the ladies and their guys all play Mexican Train as they munch on the goodies that the hostesses provide.

A luncheon is held each month for all members, guests and prospective new members at the Ramada Inn in Mandarin, which includes a short business meeting and some type of interesting program. A few things we’ve enjoyed over the years have been learning about weather forecasting by meteorologists from the local TV stations, a talk by a local FBI agent, a bagpipe played by a young man in a kilt, hand-bell choirs, Barber Shop Quartets, Jacksonville Symphony musicians and one of our very favorites was when a survivor of the plane that crashed in the river in New York told us about that very frightening experience! Any lady from anywhere interested in our Merry Band can get more information by calling Diane at 880-5354.

Happy Thanksgiving
From your friends at Mandarin NewsLine!
Thursday Lecture to focus on Kennedy assassination

The Mandarin Museum and Historical Society, in partnership with the Mandarin Community Club, will present the quarterly Third Thursday Lecture, entitled “The Kennedy Assassination at 50: The Enduring Mystery” on November 21, 2013—one day before the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

The guest speaker will be David T. Courtwright, who teaches American history at UNF, including a popular undergraduate course on the 1960s and a seminar on “the long 1960s.” He has authored six books and numerous articles.

Courtwright will recount the key events of November 22, 1963, show and discuss about 20 to 25 minutes of film footage and entertain questions from the floor. This presentation will be fascinating to those who remember exactly where they were when they received the news of this horrifying event and it will be a valuable learning experience for those who came after.

The lecture will be held at the Mandarin Community Club, located at 12447 Mandarin Road, with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. and the lecture at 7:00 p.m. For more information please call 904-705.1692 or email mandarin-museum@bellsouth.net.

Chili Cook Off cont. from pg. 1

this year will be no exception. Proceeds from this year’s event will benefit the Mandarin Food Bank, Junior Achievement and the Mandarin Council’s own Janice Meisel Scholarship Fund, given annually to a local high school senior who plans to pursue a degree in business.

Admission to the event is only two cans of food for the Mandarin Food Bank. Be sure to donate the $7 for the All-You-Can-Taste Chili ticket, which allows you unlimited tastes of every pot of chili. Individual tickets for single “tastes” may be purchased for only 50 cents.

The Mandarin Fall Festival and Chili Cook-Off is presented by Jax Federal Credit Union, with Gold Sponsors Robert E. Burke, CPA; RT Publishing, Inc., publisher of Mandarin NewsLine, and VyStar Credit Union. The Silver Sponsor is Gold Star Adjusters and Bronze Sponsors are Atlantic Shores Realty of Jacksonville, Gold Hills Jewelry, Swimming Safari and Fit Body Boot Camp. Many thanks to these fine sponsors who make this event possible. It’s not too late for your business to be a sponsor!

“This is a great family event that the Mandarin area has embraced and looks forward to every year. Stop by and see us!” says event organizer Mark Goldwich.
November is Diabetic Eye Disease Awareness Month

Recent health studies reveal that as many as 24,000 people lose their sight every year to diabetes and diabetic retinopathy, the leading cause of blindness in the United States. According to Russell Pecoraro, M.D., ophthalmologist and diabetic specialist with Clay Eye Physicians and Surgeons, “Often times, patients find out they have diabetes from their eye exam.”

He continues, “Conducting a routine eye exam can detect so many things. Some are minor, such as a slight change in prescription or the need for new or different contact lenses; however, other diseases such as diabetes and diabetic retinopathy can be much more significant and can be life changing.

When we conduct eye exams, we look into the eye and are hoping to see a clear view. If we see blood and other fluids that are leaking, we typically suspect that these fluids might be symptoms of diabetes. Bleeding is usually a symptom that there is a buildup of sugar in the patient’s bloodstream and it has begun to break down the capillaries that feed the retina. The result is often what we call diabetic retinopathy – a condition in which continuing damage to retinal tissue from diabetes can lead to impaired vision or even blindness.” Dr. Pecoraro explains, “If we detect retinal bleeding during your eye exam and suspect diabetes, we will then recommend that you see your primary care provider immediately, to have a fasting blood sugar test. If diabetes is determined, it is important to catch it in the early stages, get it under control, and save your vision before further damage to your retina occurs.”

Clay Eye has the latest diagnostic, medical and surgical technology for taking care of this diabetes.

Dr. Pecoraro states, “The National Eye Institute reports that there has been an 89 percent increase in patients with diabetic retinopathy since 2000, effecting 7.7 million people in the United States. This number is estimated to grow to 11.5 million by 2020. If you have diabetes, it’s important that you be proactive with your vision health. This is important even if there are no vision issues. Make it a priority to control your blood sugar levels, and schedule an annual dilated retinal examination.”

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!

Ladies Night Out
“Reverse the Sign of Aging”
Tuesday, November 12th
6:00pm to 8:00pm
Ippington Yacht Club

Join I. Phillip Garcia, M.D. FACS of the Garcia Facial Plastic Surgery Institute and his team to hear the latest surgical and non-surgical solutions for facial rejuvenation and skin care. In addition you will also hear about Contoura and Centoura “Plus, the breakthrough procedures that will make you look years younger!”

Door prizes and special product discounts provided by the spa at Bartram Walk. Ladies will also enjoy happy hour drink specials and a fresh fruit and cheese hors d’oeuvres display.

“Cash only. Credit or Debit Cards not accepted.”

For more information contact Carmen Sardinas at carmen@garciainstilut.com or Jenea Bratton at jenea@jennabratton.com

RSVP 421-2237
Mustang Band experience... through eyes of a student

By Contributing Writer Matthew Waeltz, MHS Student

I'm being able to go through all the Mustang Band program as a freshman, I had underestimated the amount of work I had to put in. The toughest, most rewarding and most fun part of band is marching season, but most of you know it as football season. The most challenging part of it all is balancing my already tight schedule around practices, games and competitions—but the friendships you develop during four years of high school band are tremendous, ones that will last to the end of high school and beyond.

I have to say that the band really does work hard to achieve the highest possible quality through sound, marching and program. I don't look at the Mustang Band program as just a class, but a lifestyle. It's that one time of the year where I have to work myself along with my other band members toward a common goal, which is to achieve that perfect sound and perfect show. In the future, when I look back on my years in the Mustang Band program, I will think, “That was me; I remember all the effort I put into that!” It comes to a point where you can say that, practice after practice, season after season and year after year. Remembering things like that, things that I've done with the marching band, tells me that we are the absolute top-of-the-line best that we can be, wherever we go, a standard that is held highly by the Mandarin High School music program.

Wreath-laying ceremony for Veterans Day

The Mandarin Community Club will observe Veterans Day with a wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday, November 10. The public is invited to this event scheduled for 1:00 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial located within the Billard Park at 11642 Brady Road. For further information, please visit mandarincommunityclub.org.
Meet our fitness contest winner!

The mother of three-year-old twins, Alexis Allen hasn’t had much time for herself to say the least. She loves being a new mom to Sadie and Nate Allen, but all moms will agree that having kids immediately shifts the focus from themselves to their children. Allen decided she needed to start making some time for herself and get back into shape. Before she had her kids she enjoyed running and participated in races where she could compete against her latest time. Allen is ready to get back on track so she applied for three months of training at Fitness Together Mandarin in their Win and Get Thin contest.

Fitness Together Mandarins Colin Woodmansee selected Allen because of her determination to carve out the time to ensure that she stays healthy and in good shape for herself and for her family.

“It’s important to realize that schedules can get busy and kids can certainly take up a lot of time,” said Woodmansee. “But making time to eat right and exercise and challenge yourself with personal goals is important to your physical health as well as your mental well being.”

Woodmansee will be working with Allen three times a week during Fitness Together’s PACK Group training. The training focuses on both strength and cardio to provide a complete body workout—something Allen is excited about and even a little nervous to start.

“I know that getting back in shape will benefit me in countless ways, but as a bonus, it will benefit my family by having a more active mom and wife,” said Allen. “I’m ready to Get Fit and Thin and I would love to finish the Gate River Run with a personal record!” Stay tuned to see how she does!

Be sure to see the Fitness Together ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!

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Developing effective study skills

By Contributing Writer Edgar Gonzalez, Director, Huntington Learning Center

Most students who are organized and adhere to a consistent routine are successful in school. Children thrive with routine and help them learn to be responsible, take charge of what they need to do and become more self-disciplined. Routine lets children know what is expected of them. Most parents will agree that good organization skills are valuable with long term lasting benefits.

• Stay organized and on task by providing a dedicated study space with the right supplies away from the television, phones and other distractions, with the computer located in a centralized area versus your child’s room to avoid unnecessary distractions.

• Organize assignments, notes and papers. Create study guide index cards and file in binders or folders by subject. Consider file box or stackable trays or any other system.

• Planning ahead results in less stress and anxiety while improving results. It will help your child approach big projects and challenging situations calmly and methodically.

• In today’s electronic age most teachers post their classroom’s key events online and allow both parents and students to remain up to date with up-coming deadlines. If your child uses a planner, writing upcoming deadlines and activities on a wall calendar at his or her desk will help them keep track of mind.

• Clock or timer – Develop the discipline of effective time management which only comes with practice. Agree on appropriate amount of time your child should be spending on nightly homework and/or test preparation. An organized student is more independent. Children who are disorganized often feel (and act) helpless. They lose and forget things and they panic when they cannot locate what they’re looking for. Students who are organized are more likely to be self-starters because it’s easy to find what they need and because they know that the sooner they finish their “have-tos,” the more time they’ll have for their “want-tos.”

Good notes will help your student better process information when studying independently, thereby enhancing his or her learning.

• The notes should contain enough information so the student can quickly pull out the main points.

• Record key points – Your student should realize it is less important to take down every word that a teacher says and more important to note topics that the teacher emphasizes. Students shouldn’t forget to jot down examples that support these ideas.

• Pay attention to the teacher’s style as no two teachers present material exactly alike. For example, some teachers write key information on the board or hand out outlines to guide students as they study.

• Don’t stop listening. Many students may follow a teacher’s lead and jot down whatever he or she notes as the most important points and then tune out. Students should listen carefully as their teacher explains each point and write down additional thoughts that may help their understanding and recall later.

• Review and tidy notes within 24 hours. This will help keep the material fresh and give your student an opportunity to clarify any appreciations or unclear points. Supplement your notes with extra material from text and handouts. Always leave extra space in your notes for this. Use a highlighter and/or underline to identify key topics and main ideas.

For additional information, please contact canlearn@aol.com.

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Acknowledge the inevitable and arm yourself with understanding

Provided by Community Hospice of Northeast Florida

Awareness, by definition, is the ability to perceive or be conscious of something. It may also refer to common knowledge or an understanding about an issue and hence many beneficial initiatives try to “raise awareness” of a given subject.

Since November is National Hospice Month, perhaps it is a good opportunity to consider having a conversation when you and your family gather together about when is the right time to make the call to hospice. This discussion is helpful especially if you are healthy and not in the advanced illness. Hospice care is received wherever a patient calls home— in a private residence, in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and in area hospitals. At times, pain or symptoms may become too difficult to manage or stabilize at home, so Community Hospice also provides care in one of our six homelike short-term inpatient care centers.

Myth: Hospice is a place.
More than a place of care, hospice is a unique approach to care for people with advanced illness. Hospice care is received whenever a patient calls home—in a private residence, in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and in area hospitals. At times, pain or symptoms may become too difficult to manage or stabilize at home, so Community Hospice also provides care in one of our six homelike short-term inpatient care centers.

Myth: Hospice is just about Hospice myths cont. on pg. 17

Florida's first Green House homes for Alzheimer's/ Dementia Care now open

Brooks Rehabilitation served over 15,000 seniors in 2012 and knows firsthand that they have unique healthcare needs. Whether it is gaining physical strength and coordination, increasing mental stimulation or receiving emotional and social support, Brooks is committed to furthering their services to transform the lives of seniors in our community.

With the opening of the Brooks Rehabilitation at Bartram Park campus, they are creating a place where seniors can receive the customized care they need while living life to its fullest. The campus, located on Interstate 95 and Bartram Park Boulevard in southern Duval County, includes Bartram Lakes, a three-story, 61-unit assisted living community, Bartram Crossing, a 100-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility and two 12-room memory care homes, The Green House Residences. The Green House® Residences have been developed using the nationally recognized best practice guidelines of The Green House® Project—an organization that has pioneered the creation of intimate, residential style homes that recognize the individuality of senior residents. These two 12-bedroom homes will provide specialized care to individuals with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. They will be the first Green House homes in the state of Florida!

The services on the Bartram Campus will expand Brooks’ current system of care, which includes a rehabilitation hospital, home health care, outpatient therapy clinics, a medical group, clinical research and community programs. The value in offering a coordinated continuum of services comes from the sharing of knowledge among clinical experts in their different divisions. Not only can they provide seamless transitions for patients between levels of care, but can also effectively treat patients in the right setting for their individual needs resulting in the best possible outcomes. Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!
Freedom Christian Fellowship invites you to a free, live music concert with “Consumed by Fire” headlining on Friday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. Freedom Christian Fellowship is located at 342 Loretto Road in Mandarin. For more details, please visit www.FCJax.org.

On Wednesday morning, November 6 beginning at 9:00 a.m., we invite newcomers and friends for our coffee and schmoozing program, Jewish Java, at Village Bread Cafe. We thank the Village Inn for their hospitality in October; however, we are returning to VBC because it allows us more privacy and a better venue for our guests.

By Contributing Writer David Wunder, Center Activities Specialist, Mandarin Senior Center

Mandarin Senior Center November update

Classes are taught by certified instructors on the newest trends in exercise. Both Zumba Gold and Bokwa have added really fun new activities on Thursdays! Bokwa and Jive are some of the dance classes.

On Thursday, November 21 at 17:30 p.m., JFC will benefit at Players by the Sea for The Whipping Post Seating is limited. The cost is $3 per ticket which can be purchased online at www.OCIAX.org or by phone at 6:15 p.m. proceeds the play. For additional information, please call 994-5727.

Mandarin Senior Center November update

By Contributing Writer David Wunder, Center Activities Specialist, Mandarin Senior Center

The Mandarin Senior Center has added really fun new activities on Thursdays! Bokwa and Zumba Gold are some of the newest trends in exercise. Both classes are taught by certified instructors and offer fun and upbeat exercise to music. Mandarin Senior Center is the place to be Thursday evenings as we have a live band, Jacksonville’s own 2nd Time Around, playing from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Singles or couples, come see what you’re missing! We have great music, dancing and socialization with interesting people. We serve dinner and everyone brings some snacks to share. One lucky person even takes home a door prize each week! Please contact David Wunder at the Senior Center for further details on any of these events.

Join us on November 1 for our annual Chill Cook-off event. This is our most popular fundraiser as we serve over a dozen different kinds of chili with all the toppings you can handle. Sides, drinks and dessert are all included. Get out of the house and enjoy a fantastic meal while you support your local senior center. The cost is $5 for adults and $3 for children 12 and under.

We will be watching “The Good Place” on Thursday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. and “Our Dinner and a Movie event. Dinner is served at 4:30 p.m. and Movie starts at 5:00 p.m. For information about dinner and RSVP, please contact the Mandarin Senior Center located at 3848 Hartley Road, 262-7309.

Weekday Mass Schedule

8:00 a.m. Historic Church
8:15 a.m. Main Church
11:15 a.m. Historic Church

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

Hispanic Mass
Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Historic Church

Traditional Latin Mass
Sunday - 11:15 a.m.

Historic Church

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday – Thursday
8:30 a.m. Historic Church
Friday
8:15 a.m. Main Church
11730 Old St. Augustine Rd.
Jacksonville, Florida 32286-5422

For more details, please call (904) 429-0290

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At Your Service

I’d love my children to get along so we can enjoy life together. But even more importantly, I want them to see that living with one another in an understanding way now will help them love their friends, roommates and spouses later. I’m grateful for the guidance I find in the Bible to overlook and cover the multitude of silly, but annoying, sins of those I love.

The bickering hasn’t stopped. But the dialog has shifted. Respect doesn’t happen in the classroom or on the playground. Respect begins at home.

* In case you’re one of the lucky few who have never experienced the bickering, it’s when one sibling corrects the other in a loud voice so as to ensure you hear all about it. "BEN! No, I cannot ignore the bickering this time. Instead, I’m teaching my children that love overlooks offenses.

Sometimes brothers play too roughly. Sometimes sisters are too sensitive. But we help them find the word! No, I cannot ignore the bickering. Sometimes brothers play too roughly. Sometimes sisters are too sensitive. 1 Peter 4:8 is helping our sibling relationships. “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”

While it would be easier to always tell him we love him, we could fast forward a few years until one of these two moved away and teach each other of them to be a good neighbor, friend, spouse or parent. Parents have the responsibility to keep them on long view in mind when we’re parenting—we are raising adults and what we teach our children now can shape them later in life!

Today, Lauren came in my room with another complaint. It was perfect timing because I was working and Daddy’s dirty socks were on the floor from the night before. I asked if she thought I should be mad at Daddy for leaving his socks on the floor. Does that help me feel better? Does it help move the socks into the dirty laundry basket? Does it help Daddy and me grow closer together?

Fortunately, she thought the whole idea of being mad at Daddy over socks was ridiculous and we laughed together. When I segued into her relationship with her brother, I saw in my precious daughter’s face that she saw how silly the bickering is.
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Help Wanted

New animal life store in Mandarin

Nancy and Peter Coughlin recently opened Coral Reef Junkies retail aquarium store in Mandarin. Coral Reef Junkies is located on Old St. Augustine Road just north San Jose Boulevard and south Sunbeam Road. Look for the Bubbles Car Wash and Starbucks; then you’ll see another Coral Reef pictures on the storefront windows.

Coral Reef Junkies owner Nancy Coughlin stated, “One of the company’s goals is to make fish keeping and the reef hobby accessible and convenient.”

Noticing a lack of retailers in the high-end saltwater aquarium space, the Coughlins set out to provide an environment with excellent service with competitive pricing to aquarists in the area.

In addition to bringing small business advocates, Coral Reef Junkies supports our troops and veterans. Nancy Coughlin served in the United States Coast Guard and Patrick Stanley, the store manager, is a retired Iraq War veteran. As they grow, Coral Reef Junkies is looking to hire more veterans and business-minded employees in the future.

Coral Reef Junkies is committed to the environment by humanly housing aquatic animals and supporting “safe collection” practices.

If you are interested in aquarium fish and supplies, drop by and visit the shop anytime!

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine.

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Wanted experienced automotive mechanics. Must have a proven track record of excellent customer service and technological knowledge. Must be in local auto business. Contact: 904-292-3844.

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Send an email to editor@mandarinnewsline.com
Deadline: the 10th of each month!
By Contributing Writer Master Gardener Lesley Arrantelle with Duvall County Extension, University of Florida/IFAS

Gardening

Fall wildflowers

By Contributing Writer Master Gardener Lesley Arrantelle with Duvall County Extension, University of Florida/IFAS

By Contributing Writer Mark Atkinson, Ride Director, North Florida Bicycle Club

More about bicycling...
By Chad Cushnir

Florida-Georgia weekend

Lots of activities planned for University of Georgia and Florida on Monday, November 25 at Veterans Memorial Arena.

GordonJYSC@gmail.com

For additional information, please contact locun@att.net.

The garden club is always supporting our community by collecting the following items which may be brought to the clubhouse for all events: eye glasses, sunglasses and cases donated to the Lions Club, cell phones and accessories donated to the Duval County 4-H and nonperishable, unexpired food items and toiletries donated to the Mandarin Food Bank. Donated ink cartridges will be used to purchase Mandarin Garden Club office supplies.

Cunningham’s Holiday Herbal Celebration, November 23 and 24, 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., at 2440Loefberg Drive in Jacksonville. This is a charming gardener’s way to get into the holiday spirit. Purchase your cool season herb plants, gifts from the garden, herbal vendors and delicious herbal food from appetizers to desserts and seasonal herbal beverages.

For more information about the Mandarin Garden Club, located at 2892 Loretto Road, please see our website, www.mandaringardencub.org or call 268-1192. Everyone is welcome to the Mandarin Garden Club.

Sponsoring this event is Mandarin Garden Club Cookbook, Cunningham’s Holiday Herbal Celebration, November 23 and 24, 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., at 2440 Loefberg Drive in Jacksonville. This is a charming gardener’s way to get into the holiday spirit. Purchase your cool season herb plants, gifts from the garden, herbal vendors and delicious herbal food from appetizers to desserts and seasonal herbal beverages. For additional information, please contact locun@att.net. The garden club is always supporting our community by collecting the following items which may be brought to the clubhouse for all events: eye glasses, sunglasses and cases donated to the Lions Club, cell phones and accessories donated to the Duval County 4-H and nonperishable, unexpired food items and toiletries donated to the Mandarin Food Bank. Donated ink cartridges will be used to purchase Mandarin Garden Club office supplies.
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Congratulations to the JYSC U10 Boys Elite, Champions of the GIS Cup, held October 12 and 13 in Palm Coast. This tournament featured teams from all over Florida and Mexico.

Flotilla 14-8 proudly assisted the Florida Tackle and Gun Club (FT and GC) on September 22 with the dedication of improvements to their facility on Goodby’s Creek. Their new docks and flagpole pavilion add to extensive previously completed clubhouse renovations. The FT and GC, founded in September 1944, erected their clubhouse in October 1948. The flotilla was formed at the FT and GC facility in April 1969 as the Jacksonville unit of the USCG Auxiliary. The founding members of that unit included a number of the club’s members. The Florida Tackle and Gun Club has remained the home and meeting place of the flotilla since its founding.

Presiding over the dedication ceremony was FT and GC President Nina Duggan, introduced by Buz Palmer, long-time member of the club and a charter member of the flotilla. Uniformed officers and members of the flotilla were in attendance. Bill Sekeres, Commander of Division 14 of the USCG Auxiliary assisted the Sea Scouts, Boy Scouts of America of Jacksonville with presenting the American flag, as well as those of the State of Florida, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Florida Tackle and Gun Club and POW-MIA. Raising of the flags was accompanied by a reading of “Olde Glory” by Nina Duggan. The national anthem was sung by soloist Brittany Ferrell.

The dedication on the waterfront lawn was attended by approximately 70 club members and guests, including several active and retired members of Flotilla 14-8. Guests and the club’s board of directors were recognized. Dock master and board member Denny Colber spoke of the many advantages of the new docks, including all new lighting. The ceremony was followed by a buffet dinner inside the clubhouse.

Learn more from experienced boat operators through courses such as those presented by the auxiliary at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club at 9010 Sun Jose Boulevard. For the November class, please call Bob at 721-1146 to reserve a place or discuss alternative dates or places.

Congratulations to the JYSC U10 Boys Elite, Champions of the GIS Cup, held October 12 and 13 in Palm Coast. This tournament featured teams from all over Florida and Mexico.
Visiting Gettysburg with grandchildren

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

A visit to Gettysburg tugs on your heart, bewilders the mind and saddens the soul. Yet, it brings forth hope and perhaps even a sense of peace. At least it did for me. I took my two oldest grandchildren, ages nine and 11, the day after we visited Chocolate World in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Nine-year-old Kyra put it astutely, “Mimi, these two places are polar opposites.” Yes, they are. Hershey was delicious fun, play time and laughter. Gettysburg was a solemn history lesson.

What does the chasing of history achieve? Does it matter whether or not we can understand them? Our first stop was the Gettysburg Military Park Headquarters and Visitors Center where we watched a movie narrated by Morgan Freeman. The film explained the overwhelming loss of life that happened in this small town 150 years ago, some 57,225 causalities (dead, wounded, captured or missing) from both sides during the three-day campaign. The movie also described how the Union victory helped end the Civil War and bring forth the Emancipation Proclamation.

After the film, we climbed stairs to view the historic and restored Cyclorama, the largest painting in the United States. French artist Paul Philippeaux and his team painted the 377-foot long by 42 feet high work in 1883. The 360-degree cylindrical painting depicts the Battle of Gettysburg on July 3, 1863.

This type of presentation, popular at the turn-of-the-century, was intended to immerse viewers in the scene with the addition of foreground models and life-sized replicas to enhance the illusion. The grandkids and I were fascinated by the sound and light show effects on articles, like cannon and how they created a realistic intensity to the work of art.

(Tip: we visited near the end of the day and practically had the space to ourselves.) But it was our visit to the David Wills House the next morning that brought the story of Gettysburg together. The brick home where the center of town was filled with wounded and dying soldiers after the battle. Leading citizens met there to make plans for proper burials. Wills, an attorney, acquired land for the National Cemetery and sent President Lincoln an invitation by telegraph. This led to his visit to Gettysburg and giving the most famous speech in American history.

Lincoln spent the night before the dedication in the Wills House revising his intended remarks. His short speech the next day surprised many, but his words, known as the Gettysburg Address, are long remembered.

While touring the upstairs of the Wills House, we saw another film. This one clearly revealed how the freedoms won by the Emancipation Proclamation were not truly fulfilled. The production showed the rise of the Ku Klux Klan and how segregation became a way of life in the South.

The presentation also included footage of Martin Luther King giving his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. The movie ends with LBJ signing the Civil Rights Bill and more current American scenes.

Clean, even now, not all men are treated equally. Discrimination still occurs and struggles continue. But I left the Wills House with a feeling of deeper compassion and hopeful expectation. I think my grandchildren did, too. They are our future and taking them to a place like this is worthwhile. History has meaning when we try to understand, but that’s not to say fun is frivolous. On the contrary, both are necessary.

Every November 19, Gettysburg commemorates the cemetery dedication and the delivery of the Gettysburg Address on Dedication Day. This year will mark the 150th commemoration.

For more information, visit www.gettysburgcivillwar150.com.

Jacksonville Farmers Market: 75 years of fresh produce

By Karl Kennell

Jacksonville Farmers Market is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. To many “old-timers” it is best known as the Beaver Street Farmers market. In 1938 it opened as the Jacksonville Produce Market and has since been renamed the Jacksonville Farmers Market.

It is the oldest public farmers market in Florida and today welcomes more than 25,000 visitors a year. Since 1938 several additions have been made to the Jacksonville Farmers Market’s original wood and sheet metal structures. It was at one point home to more than 80 vendors, including the southeastern producer of Beaver Street, just one mile off Interstate 59, west of downtown Jacksonville. They are open every day of the week, 365 days a year. The gates open at 4:00 a.m. for those individuals, restaurants and other businesses that want to purchase wholesale. Retail business operations usually begin around 7:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day until 6:00 p.m. in the evening.

Vendors include farmers from northeast Florida and southeast Georgia who come into the market on Thursdays, Tuesdays and Saturdays. They set up on the east side of the market on what is called “Farmers Row.” A line-up of local farmers offer shoppers more selection in the “locally grown” category. There is a seafood vendor and organic vendor. In other words, you can just about get anything you want any time of the year, except those products that are tied to seasonal changes, such as strawberries, citrus, apples, melons and peaches, to name a few.

Andy’s Farmers Market Grill operates at the market, serving up delicious breakfast and lunch throughout the week. After Labor Day, Andy will be serving pit cooked barbeque on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Andy’s offers an opportunity for folks to relax at the market.

General Manager Gary Tyson says, “Shop the Jacksonville Farmers Market, because you always get the best for the lowest price!”

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We understand that kids are not little adults. They have special needs and an emergency room can be an anxious place for a child.

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