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

By Martie Thompson

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

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

Moser was pleased that the student performers were very invested in their roles and under- stood what the show was about. The team is composed of 22 stu- dents, including five males and freshmen through seniors. The majority of the team performed Nease Winterguard cont. on pg. 28

Veterans’ nursing home celebrates volunteers with garden party

By Karl Kennell

On the sunny and bright afternoon of April 25, the residents of Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home made their way from their rooms to the octagonal courtyard. They were gathering for a special volunteer appreciation garden party. This garden party was extra special because it was being thrown and hosted by the residents for the many individual volunteers and organizations that come to visit them throughout the year. Surrounding the courtyard the residents heard from volunteers and other speakers how much they enjoyed helping out and befriending the residents. Representatives from the St. Augustine Songwriters Association were on hand to provide music. Don Rust, association member and owner of O’Malley’s Irish Pub, is one of the most faithful volunteers, helping make these veterans find music in their later years. He visits every Wednesday to perform for the residents and encourage other performers to share their talents with the veteran residents. He spear-headed a fundraising drive to purchase a sound system for the nursing home. The sound system was presented to the facility the day of the garden party and is now available for all the entertainers so they will no longer need to drag their own sound system around the nursing home.

Wandering and weaving through the residents, families and friends who were enjoying the music and fun were several of the students from Andi Garden party cont. on pg. 16

Transition program for rising sixth grade FCMS girls

Passages registration open

By Contributing Writer Denise Lewis

Youth Leaders Madeline Lewis, Sydney Hale and Jessica Taylor rehearsing for “What Not To Wear” Fashion Show held during last year’s Passages Program. This year’s program will feature rising sixth grade girls to middle school. Through this program, the girls become familiar with every aspect of their new school and schedule, which, in turn, lessens their anxiety and increases confidence in their new routine.

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

Passages cont. on pg. 12

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

Photo by Barry Dirks.

Four months of rehearsing at between eight and 15 hours per week has paid off in a big way for the Nease High School Class Winterguard. Following their first place finish at the FFCC Championship (Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit) held in Daytona Beach on April 7, the team traveled to Dayton, Ohio for the WGI (World Guard International) World Championships, where they earned a coveted place in the finals, finishing in 12th place out of a total 22 teams in their class. This impressive feat was accomplished in their first year of competing in the Scholastic World class and Nease was the only new team in that classification to advance all the way to finals.

Their 2013 show, entitled Divinare “To Become” was conceived and choreographed by Jill Moser, Justin Sullivan, Lauren

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

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

Passages is a two-day workshop which orientates incoming sixth grade girls to middle school. Through this program, the girls become familiar with every aspect of their new school and schedule, which, in turn, lessens their anxiety and increases confidence in their new routine.

Girls who have participated in the program have come away with high praise for it.
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Do you have community or club news you would like included in The CreekLine?  
Then contact Martie Thompson at: editor@rtpublishinginc.com or 886-4919.

What’s New

Community Happenings

On Saturday, May 18 the Golden Panther Booster Club will launch its largest fundraiser in a number of years, the GPBC Garage Sale. There are over 500 student athletes and their families donating both merchandise and volunteer hours to raise funds for Nease athletics. Leading this effort are athletic director Ted Barbato and Golden Panther Booster Club president Greg England. All unused merchandise will be donated to the Betty Griffin House, one of the signature service projects of the International Baccalaureate Program at Nease High School. The sale will begin promptly at 7:00 a.m. and run until 3:00 p.m. Admission is $1 per adult, $0 for children and seniors. Items for sale include furniture, exercise equipment, clothes, linens, small electronics and a whole lot more. Come early for the best bargains and support local student athletes!

The Creekside High School varsity cheerleaders will hold their annual camp from June 24 through June 27 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:100 noon. Girls enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade during the 2013-2014 school year are eligible to attend.

Applications are being accepted for the 2013 St. Johns County Master Gardener class. The Master Gardener program recruits volunteers for horticultural activities of the Extension Service. In exchange for 50 hours of intensive horticultural education provided by the University of Florida, the volunteer commits to donating 75 hours of volunteer time to Extension Service projects. Examples of volunteer projects are horticulture care, demonstration vegetable garden, phone desk, plant clinics and educational outreach, to name a few. If you are interested in the program, please call 904-607-5062 for application forms. The deadline for applications is June 28, 2013.

The Marine Corps League, Ancient City Detachment 383, meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1900 hours at the St. Augustine Elks Lodge 829, located at 1420 State Road A1A South in St. Augustine. For additional information, please visit ml1383.org.

What’s New cont. on pg. 5
From the Commissioner’s Desk
By Contributing Writer Ron Sanchez, County Commissioner, District 2

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

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

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

Their goal is to improve public acceptance that will allow the expansion of manufacturing and logistics companies on Florida’s First Coast. They will hold the largest and most exciting event in the association’s history from October 2 through 4, 2013 at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine.

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

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

JAXPORT is competing against Charleston, South Carolina and Savannah, Georgia for the lucrative larger fleet.

In Florida, 17,746 manufacturers employ over 340,000 skilled workers. Manufacturing creates six times the economic impact of agriculture. On the local level manufacturing accounts for 15 percent of the total gross regional product. It accounts for 20 percent of the area capital investment. Manufacturers pay 25 percent of the Tangible Personal Property Tax and 50 percent of FCMA manufacturing members are involved in imports and exports.

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

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

Manufacturing is valuable to our economy with direct and indirect jobs. Manufacturers are working hard and investing in protecting our environment. Support for manufacturing is support for your economy.
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The Sheriff Reports
By Contributing Writer David B. Shor, St. Johns County Sheriff

Proms, parties and alcohol

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

One major concern is under-age alcohol use and abuse. In recent years we have seen some promising young people from our high schools killed in crashes where alcohol consumed at parties was a contributing factor. The 2012 Florida Youth Substance Abuse survey of St. Johns County found 63 percent of high school students had used alcohol in their lifetime. More than 36.9 percent had consumed alcohol in the past month of the survey and 18.3 percent reported binge drinking (five or more drinks for males and four or more drinks for females for the sole purpose of getting drunk) in the past 30 days. The numbers for our middle school students in the survey is as follows: 26.2 percent have used alcohol in their lifetime. More than 10 percent had consumed alcohol in the past month of the survey and 5.6 percent were drinking in the prior 30 days of the survey. All of the numbers are significantly lower for females than the survey taken 10 years ago. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the leading cause of death for 15 to 20 year olds is a car crash. 15 to 20 year olds is a car crash according to the National Highway are significantly lower than the survey. All of the numbers percent had consumed alcohol in the past 30 days, 49 percent purchased it illegally, 30 percent got it from an unrelated person of drinking age and 21 percent were provided alcohol by their peers or another adult family member. In an effort to reduce these alarming numbers we have joined with the St. Johns Country School Board and the PACT Coalition (Prevent-Act-Change-Together) to create “The Party’s Over” educational awareness and enforcement campaign.

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

1. Have a very specific conversation with your teen about alcohol consumption, driving under influence and resisting peer pressure that often leads to poor judgment before, during and after proms.

2. Find out who will be driving, their address and phone number and a list of names and phone numbers for each teen passenger.

3. Get a planned itinerary and stress that no changes to it can be made without approval.

4. Talk with your teen specifically about how he or she will handle difficult situations such as being offered alcohol or drugs or turning down a ride with an intoxicated driver.

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

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

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

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

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

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What’s New cont. from pg. 3

Julington Creek Realty
Jamie Walker, Broker, CRS

Main Library in St Augustine is a work of art, motivation and conflict. What do you need to know to sustain a book-length work of fiction? This workshop will help you understand and use goals, motivation and conflict to create a stronger, focused and motivated. This program is presented in partnership with the Friends of the Main Library and the Ancient City Chapter/FWA. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at St Augustine, at US Highway 1 and San Carlos.

Adults and teens age 14 and older are invited to attend the Project Lap Blanket crochet group at the Bartram Trail Branch library on Monday, May 13 Tuesday, May 21 and Thursday, May 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The group will crochet or knit blankets for cancer patients at area hospital. If skill levels are well received, can’t come to any of the meetings? Pick up the crochet patterns at the Reference Desk in the library and crochet the blanket in your spare time. Drop off completed blankets and yarn you’d like to donate during regular library hours. For additional information, please call the Reference Desk at 827-4660.

The Garden Club of Switzer-

land held its spring luncheon and installation of officers on May 9, 2013. The meeting, held at Bailey’s Needmore Ranch, was the final one until September 12. New officers were installed include Michelle Fraser, president; Donna Ke- a member of our club, who is writing this newsletter as Naturalist for St Johns County, Beverly received a wonderful tribute on April 22 from the staff and students of Julington Creek Elementary School, who are planting trees in her honor by the flag pole, Beverly has been faithful friend of the school and community. Beverly is a member of our Club where she brought a love and understanding of nature for the past 25 years. Congratulations Beverly.

The MOMS Club St. Au-
gustine-North is a wonderful way to meet other stay-at-home and part-time working mothers and is a fun way for your children to socialize with other children. Members are children of all ages are welcome. Members for this chapter must live in the 32081 or 32085 zip codes, including all neighboring along the 210 corridor. If you have children under age 18 and are interested in joining our MOMS Club, please visit our website at http://sanmomsclub.weebly.com or drop into our business meeting.

The St. Johns County Mar-
ter Gardens will be on hand to answer your lawn and garden questions at the Bartram Trail Library, located at 60 Davis Pond Road at the entrance to Julington Creek Plantation. The clinics are scheduled for Thursday, May 16 and Saturday, May 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You can bring in a soil sample for free pH testing. Instructions on taking a soil sample can be found on the internet.

Riding Into History, one of America’s premier vintage motorcycle events, will return to the beautiful World Golf Village near St Augustine on May 17-18, 2013. The week- end will feature the Concours d’Elegance on Saturday, with a charity ride to the event leaving from Adams Harley-Davidson Baymeadows and BMW Mo-
April 10 was an exciting day for the Creekside High School District. We completed our five year accreditation review. Our inspection committee, an international accreditation group, visited the district for three days, meeting with people all over the district, from the superintendent and School Board to children, parents and staff. We did a careful review of several of our schools. The group evaluated 145 powerful practices when they review a district. Districts usually get the highest rating on about 15 of these measures. Our district achieved a perfect score on ten of them. It was exceptionally gratifying to hear our district described as a jewel by the leader of the team. Congratulations to our students, parents, administrators, and the community at large for helping us achieve continued accreditation.

Site preparation is well underway at Creekside High School. With all the schools that have been built since I was first elected to the School Board, this is the first time that a new one has been on my daily travel path. I always stop and watch the progress on H1, as it is called until it is given a name next fall. I am already receiving emails asking about the zoning for the new schools.

In addition, the rumor mill is very active. Please know that all decisions in the development of the zoning plan for either of the new schools. What's going on in the fall, after school is in session for 2013-14. There will be ample opportunity for public input surrounding the zoning process. Any information being shared at present (even developers or builders) has no basis and should be disregarded. Also in the fall, principals will be identified for the schools. They will begin with parents of students zoned to the school to give suggestions for names, mascots and all the other cultural items that surround new schools. I look forward to working with the community as we build these new traditions at our new schools.

Graduation is rapidly approaching. Schools are scheduling senior celebrations, academic awards programs, baccalaureate and all the other things that surround high school graduation. The graduation schedule is as follows: Pedro Menendez High School – Thurs- day, May 30, 7:00 p.m., St. Augustine High School – Saturday, June 1, 9:00 a.m., UNF Arena; Creekside High School – Sat- urday, June 1, 1:00 noon; St. Augustine Lighthouse.

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

St. Augustine Animal Hospital, a non-profit organization, was founded to educate and promote St. Augustine’s rich maritime history. Join us Saturday, June 8 at the beautiful and historic Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park for the first annual Family Fun Day from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. This event is free to St. Johns County residents and activities will include model boat building and races, youth sailing rig- ging, many demonstration, fun exhibits, kite flying and tug ‘o’ war contest, storytelling, prizes, cannon firing, food and much more. Come and see the program made by The Maritime Heritage Foundation’s boat builders who will give a report of a 16th century ship! Many of the first sailors who came to St. August- ine. Please visit our website at www.staugmaritimeheritage.com for more of information, contact Wendy Thompson at 687-4625 or wthompson55@gmail.com

Congratulations to teachers, students and their families for this accomplishment. We are so proud of our seniors. We will begin the process in June for 2013-14. There will be nothing done in the development of the zoning plan for either of the new schools. What’s going on in the fall, after school is in session for 2013-14. There will be ample opportunity for public input surrounding the zoning process. Any information being shared at present (even developers or builders) has no basis and should be disregarded. Also in the fall, principals will be identified for the schools. They will begin with parents of students zoned to the school to give suggestions for names, mascots and all the other cultural items that surround new schools. I look forward to working with the community as we build these new traditions at our new schools.

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JCE Junior Gardeners Club honors special homegrown naturalist

By Karl Kennell

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

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

Fleming has achieved many goals with the school since she began the JCE Junior Gardeners Program 25 years ago. The program was designed to help the children early, beginning in kindergarten, to develop a love and appreciation for nature. As a founding member of the Garden Club of Switzerland, she used her position to act as a liaison between the kids and the club. Highlights of her service for the school include helping the kindergarten children plant wildflower gardens many of the years; helping beautify the school over the years by planting shrubs, bushes and trees; bringing in speakers ranging from butterfly specialists to native Americans; helping the children learn about conservation and recycling; and promoting events at Alpine Groves and Trout Creek Parks.

These were just the beginning. She also turned becoming involved with nature into fun for the kids. Along with the nature program she presents once a month to all of the JCE Junior Gardeners, she has built a treehouse with green bean vines large enough for several children to actually go inside at the same time, celebrated JCE’s 25th birthday with a colorful butterfly release, helped the kindergarten children plant vegetable seeds and plants, which were harvested to make their own vegetable soup and of course the most anticipated activity for the kids over the years—when she brought various animals for sharing, with the favorite being “Howie the Owl.”

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

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

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

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

Kids Are Not Little Adults

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

Our physicians are board certified in emergency medicine and our registered nurses are certified in pediatric advanced life support and trained in pediatric medication administration. The Memorial Emergency Care Center Julington Creek offers rapid response for pediatric patients - children will be seen quickly in one of our two pediatric rooms.

Memorial Emergency Care Center Julington Creek - Because kids are not little adults.
Nease's Battle of the Bands. Although Tollers didn’t place first, their harmonic performances were most certainly a highlight of the night.

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

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

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

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

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

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

By Contributing Writer Al Abbatiello, alabbat@bellsouth.net

April 9 was an eventful month with news galore related to our Scenic Highway. There’s good news and not so good news — read on.

A St. Johns County Planning Manager from the Development Review Division made a brief presentation to the William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway Management Council with the fact the county is rezoning a large area in the county’s Scenic Highway ordinance with the possibility of permitting temporary signage for businesses on the Scenic Highway.

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

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

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

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

At our next meeting on May 9 a developer and their attorney will be making a presentation of their proposed change of an already approved residential development (PRD) of 28 home sites to a much higher density PUD. The proposed development is immediately south of RiverTown. A representative of D.R. Horton and their attorney will be making the presentation. Everyone, member or not, is invited to attend our monthly meetings at the St. Johns County Annex at 725 Flora Branch Blvd starting at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you.

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

There’s more to come from this progressive group of people and we welcome your participation. Come join us by becoming an active member in the Scenic Highway Management Council. Membership applications were received from residents of Ohio and Hawaii who want to see our Scenic Highway and enjoy the beauty.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

These details were omitted from last month’s article in The Creekline regarding the town hall meeting MasterCraft held in JCP to build an office plaza.

MasterCraft attended a JCP POA meeting and stated to property owners that they will be building an office plaza. The county held a JCP hall meeting MasterCraft held from last month’s article in The Creekline. They discussed rezoning a large area in the county for their proposed rezoning of The Parks entrance in JCP to build an office plaza.

MasterCraft attended a JCP POA meeting and stated to property owners that they will be building an office plaza. The county held a JCP hall meeting MasterCraft held from last month’s article in The Creekline. They discussed rezoning a large area in the county for their proposed rezoning of The Parks entrance in JCP to build an office plaza.

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

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

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

Julington Creek Plantation CDD report

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

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

CDD Expenses: I have seen a comparison in my years of service showing CDD expenses/salaries from 2006 with the present. Prior to the Rec. Center opening in 2008, only the Aquatic Complex was operating. Obviously, the current expenses (tennis, swimming, cafe, skate park and support staff) brought expected cost increases. Comparing figures from pre-opening with the present is misleading.

Tennis director compensation: To simply state, as I have previously stated, the tennis director is paid 50 percent over the national average is disingenuous, when the salary excludes other pertinent factors. The JCP Commission Compensation Operational Audit (December 2012) found that his total compensation did, indeed, exceed the top to 50 percent of the national average. However, this also found his CDD base salary (the amount not funded by the program assessments), is well below the national and local median. Committees are earned through industry standard calculations based on revenue produced by the programs (of which CDD receives a portion). Programs he implemented and administered have done so well that commissions are significant. If the programs were not flourishing CDD’s portion would be less.

Heating of aquatic complex competition pool: It is possible to fully utilize CDD resources in a cost-effective manner instead of having this pool sit unused for a large portion of the year. It is anticipated that operating costs will be offset or surpassed by revenue to the benefit of the CDD and residents.

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

Outside management company: I do not support the notion that the CDD should again hire a management company. The CDD took control of operations in 2006 for very good reasons that are still valid.

Our new general manager has extensive professional experience and has realized significant cost savings in a short period. Consistently looking for ways to lower costs is a priority and I am confident he will continue to reduce expenses where possible while managing operations and staff in a sound manner.

Bottom line, JCP is a great place to live and our amenities are far superior and our assessments, already lower than comparable neighborhoods, were recently decreased 8.5 percent. This combination serves to protect property values for all homeowners (regardless of whether they choose to participate in offered activities). It is truly wonderful to see these superb facilities being enjoyed by so many of our residents.

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

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

JULINGTON CREEK PLANTATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

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Dear Editor,

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

She neglected to tell you three times she voted against including a naivety scene next to the men’s restroom, which is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you she voted to heat a second pool (now budgeted) that will benefit the Loggerhead swim team in which she and her family participate because it is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you she voted in favor of a $15,000 non-budgeted illegal bonus for the GM after five months of service because it is in our best interest. She neglected to tell you that when pressed at the March meeting to tie specific measurements to future bonus awards for the GM, she responded the GM should “try to reduce expenses and stay within budget. Try.”

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

Kelly Lorbeer

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

Following its 61st annual meeting on March 28, 2013, the VyStar Credit Union board of directors announced the following election results. Michael Cascone, Eric J. Hatfield and William C. Yovian have been elected to three year terms on the VyStar Credit Union board of directors. In addition, Brian J. Roche was appointed to the board to fulfill the remaining term of Esther Schlitt who retired after serving 32 years on the VyStar board of directors and was named Director Emeritus. The executive committee of the board was selected as follows: chairman, George R Berry; co-chairman, Mark G. Hewitt; treasurer, P. Kem Siddons and secretary, Michael Cascone.

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

Dealership awarded Elite 2012 Customer First Club award

While it’s easy and common for dealerships and businesses to tout their own horn these days it is rare to receive genuine when a dealership receives the recognition and praised validation by its customers.

O’Steam Volkswagen has joined the ranks for Volkswagen dealers excelling in all customer service standards, noted as an industry leader in customer satisfaction. This coveted recognition has been awarded to only 24 Volkswagen dealers out of 17 in the country. Members of the elite Customer First Club are selected by Volkswagen customers through a Customer Experience Survey. According to the feedback from customers, the 24 dealers excelled in all aspects of the customer experience, including new car, pre-owned and service.

“It is such an honor to receive the 2012 Customer First Club Award,” states Tom O’Shea, VyStar Credit Union’s nine-person volunteer board of directors appointed Victor Blackshear to the five-member audit committee to replace Alfred C. Seaborn who retired after 40 years of service and Stephen Smith to replace Brian Roche.

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Kelly Lorbeer

The St. Augustine Community Chorus will participate in the Romanza Festival with their performance of compositions by Two Titans of Classicism, Featuring Haydn’s Te Deum and Mozart’s Requiem, the concert will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ancient City Baptist Church, located at 27 Sevilla St. in St. Augustine. A chamber orchestra, featuring Shannon McKay, organist at the Cathedral Basilica and the Jacksonville, Artists, has been formed by Community Chorus director and conductor, Dr. Theodore K. Hambright.

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

The first known performance of Haydn’s Te Deum, composed for Empress Marie Therese, the second wife of the Emperor Franz I, was presented at the Eisenstadt palace of the Esterhazys in Austria in September 1800. The St. Augustine Community Chorus, with the Romanza Festival with their performance of Haydn’s Te Deum, the concert will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ancient City Baptist Church, located at 27 Sevilla St. in St. Augustine.

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For the majority of snorers, the most affordable, non-invasive, comfortable, effective snoozing solution remains a dentist-prescribed snoozing preventative device.

Medications simply address the symptoms but do not solve the cause of the problem. If you would like a consultation, please contact our office.
Auditions for one of the best youth orchestra programs

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

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

For those who are accepted into the JSYO program, annual membership dues range from $300 to $475, depending on ensemble placement. Scholarship assistance is available, based on financial need. The season runs September through May at FSCJ South Campus. JSYO concerts are usually in November, March and May in Rob-ert E. Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, with other special concerts throughout the season.

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

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

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

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

The measures are enacted to comply with the 2011-12 St. Johns County Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit, which protect five species of sea turtles and the native Anastasia Island Beach Mouse. St. Johns County is home to several species of endangered or threatened sea turtles that arrive every spring and summer to nest along the beaches.

In 2012, St. Johns County had 704 nests, including 691 loggerhead, 19 green and a record 14 leatherback nests along 41 miles of shoreline. County residents and visitors have a special opportunity and responsibility to protect these magnificent creatures and their vulner-able nests and feeding grounds. St. Johns County Beach Services and the Environmental Division encourage beach visitors to protect sea turtle nesting habitats while enjoying a diversity of activities from sunbathing and surfing to horseback riding and fishing. In addition to following the specified beach driving hours and lighting restrictions, residents and visitors are asked to observe the following regulations and reporting procedures while enjoying St. Johns County beaches:

- Use trash and recycling receptacles.
- Use low-beam headlights and open fires.
- Remove tents and other structures built along the beach.
- Avoid leaving chairs, umbrellas or canopies on the beach over night.
- Avoid entering sand dunes and conservation zones (15 feet seaward of the dune line).
- KeepOLER FROM USING FIREFWORKS, CANNONS, OR BARBECUES ON THE BEACH.
- Leave only your footprints, and conservation eff orts and keep-our beaches beautiful. For more information, please con-nect St. Johns County Habitat Conservation and Beach Man-agement at 209-1740 or visit www.sjcfl.us/hcp.

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

Hospitals receives highest designation from Society

After an analysis of national data from all of 2012, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) awarded Memorial Hospital its highest possible rating of 3-Star. To put that in perspective, this score is earned by only about 15 percent of all eligible hospitals. STS has established a comprehensive rating system that compares the quality of heart surgery among hospitals across the country by using a combina-tion of 11 measures of quality. Medical professionals widely regard the rating as the gold standard by which to evaluate heart surgery programs. The STS Database is the oldest and most established regist-ry measuring quality in health-care. Dr. Vasant Jayasankar of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgical Associates and the medical director of the Memorial Heart Center. “Patients needing heart surgery should ask their surgeon and the hospital if they participate in the STS database and what their results are.”

“The rating reflected in the STS data is the result of a team effort,” said Bobby McCullough, Memorial Hospital’s chief operat-ing officer. “Everyone involved in patient care – the cardiovas-cular team in the OR, the intensive care unit and other nursing units, the cardiac catheterization lab, the Memorial medical staff, the blood bank – all are part of the team that provides quality care.”

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Helping Hands update

By Contributing Writer Jackie Valyou, Helping Hands

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

Helping Hands members will be busy filling Essentials beach bags for the children at the Salvation Army who go to swim camp this summer. They will meet on May 31, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Faith Community Church Community Center. The Rippers will meet at 10:00 a.m. The beach bags, which were made by the ladies in Helping Hands, will be filled with bathing suits, beach towels, sunscreen, flip flops and hats. Helping Hands is looking for donations of any new items listed for the children. Any size, color or gender items will work. The beach bags were made by the Rippers, who just finished a special project for the School of the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine. These talented ladies made over 100 fabric case canes for the special folding canes used there.

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

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

Foundation awards equipment to local first responders


To kick off the 13th annual Murray Bros. Caddyshack Golf Tournament, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation awarded equipment to Clay County Fire Rescue and Green Cove Springs Police Department during a joint ceremony on Thursday, April 4, 2013. The presentation took place prior to The Pond Charity Golf Classic sponsored by Waste Management at the River Bend Golf Links.

Chief Lorin Mock accepted the donation to Clay County Fire Rescue and was awarded an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) equipped with skid unit worth more than $18,500. Chief Robby Mayo was present from the Cove Springs Police Department benefits with four Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) worth more than $4,180. The ATV and skid unit will provide off-road capabilities for basic firefighting and the transportation of patients. The ATV will also be used on Clay County fair during large community events. The AEDs will allow every Green Cove Springs patrol shift to be outfitted to provide life-saving assistance in the event of cardiac arrest. Since 2005, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has donated more than $1.2 million to public safety entities in Florida.

Surgeon performs first robotic total knee replacement

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

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

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

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

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

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To check for programs in other locations, please call the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council liaison Rita Stokes, at 388-6653 or check online at www.girlscouts-gateway.org. To inquire about a similar, one-day program for incoming boys, call Fruit Cove Middle School regarding “Journey” at 287-2211 or 547-7880. You can also check the FCMS website at www.fcms.sjxhs.k12.fl.us.
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Mill Creek Elementary celebrates FCAT arrival with new tradition
By Contributing Writer Wendi Brothers, Mill Creek Elementary

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

Third, fourth and fifth may have been the only grades actually participating in the FCAT testing, but the entire school took part in the afternoon pep rally. All students, teachers and the majority of school staff came outside to celebrate the arrival of FCAT testing. The fifth grade entertained the younger students with an encore performance of their “flash mob.” The third, fourth and fifth grade students took part in field day type games while the younger MCE Mustangs cheered them on. Teachers worked with their students throughout all of the speed and agility games. Classes worked together as a unit but then celebrated all as one Mustang family.

The highlight of the afternoon was the tug-o-war between students and teachers. Although the teachers did win, the students put up a strong fight.

The “FCAT Arrival Celebration” will hopefully become a long standing tradition at Mill Creek Elementary—a tradition that truly sets Mill Creek apart as a school that celebrates the hard work of the teachers and students and welcomes opportunity to show what they have learned.

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

By Donna Keathley

Angie Hiler, Durbin Crossing resident and mother of three, ran her first half-marathon on March 9 of this year. Her motivation was two generations of pancreatic cancer on her mother’s side of her family. Hiler committed herself to running a half-marathon in memory of her mother, so she picked a race in Columbia, South Carolina, to start what is now her passion—fundraising and running to benefit the Pancan Action Network out of California.

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

“I was never a ‘runner’ per se,” says Hiler. “I just felt like it was something I could strive for and achieve and raise money for Pancan in the process. I guess you could say it is a ‘bucket list’ item with fundraising attached! I have raised around a $1,000 to date.”

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

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

Sign up now for the Lawn & Irrigation Class

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

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Local woman draws attention to cause by running

By Donna Keathley

Angie Hiler, Durbin Crossing resident and mother of three, ran her first half-marathon on March 9 of this year. Her motivation was two generations of pancreatic cancer on her mother’s side of her family. Hiler committed herself to running a half-marathon in memory of her mother, so she picked a race in Columbia, South Carolina, to start what is now her passion—fundraising and running to benefit the Pancan Action Network out of California.

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

“I was never a ‘runner’ per se,” says Hiler. “I just felt like it was something I could strive for and achieve and raise money for Pancan in the process. I guess you could say it is a ‘bucket list’ item with fundraising attached! I have raised around a $1,000 to date.”

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

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

Sign up now for the Lawn & Irrigation Class

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

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www.facebook.com/AllgoodJacksonville
Fashion Update

Swimsuit shopping 2013—taking away those scary fluorescent lights!

By Donna Kearthy, dktechdesign

Now that swimwear season is at hand, it seems that every woman’s mind is racing to find the perfect suit. But what if you have a specific shape? What if you’re looking for something different? Here are a few tips to help you navigate the world of swimsuits.

1. Know your body type: Knowing your body type is crucial when choosing a swimsuit. Are you hourglass, apple, pear, or something else? Understanding your body type will help you choose a swimsuit that accentuates your best features and hides your less-than-perfect parts.

2. Consider your lifestyle: Are you planning on spending the day at the beach or the pool? Do you want a swimsuit that can be worn under cover or in the sun? Consider your lifestyle when choosing a swimsuit.

3. Find the right fabric: Different fabrics will provide different levels of support and coverage. Knit fabrics are stretchy and comfortable, but they may not offer much support for larger ladies. Mesh fabrics are breathable and allow air to pass through, but they may not provide enough coverage for smaller ladies.

4. Get a professional fitting: After you’ve narrowed down your options, it’s time to go to a professional fitting. A professional fitting can help you get the right size and style for your body type.

5. Shop at the right time: Swimming season is here, so it’s a great time to shop for swimsuits. You’ll find a wide range of options at most stores, and you can take advantage of sales and discounts.

Remember: The key to swimsuit shopping is to have fun and be confident in your own skin!
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Notes from the Pacetti Bay Media Center
By Contributing Writer Lynne Johnson, NBC, Library Media Specialist, Pacetti Bay Middle School, IB/MYP

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

Operation Oleander by Valerie O. Patterson

I am very impressed with the eye of a young woman who connects to orphans in the country her father is deployed to. She feels strongly about helping through sending care packages and finds herself in the middle of controversy as a bomb goes off and has deadly consequences. I can definitely help through the lost books. The last one I would like to share of this genre is Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz. It is actually based on the true story by Ruth and Jack Gruener. This is a tale of survival at an incredible cost during the Holocaust. What makes it unique is the number of prison camps he moves through.

Lost in the River of Grass by Ginny Rorby

The practice we've had the exam, master the FRQs, and the tools they needed to pass the real test. "I was able to walk in knowing what to expect and I was confident in what we had practiced in class."

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

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

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

Some teachers offered an after-school practice test for their class. Though these teachers may count this as the class’s final, the test offers one of the best tools there is - experience. "This was my first AP class," remarked Collin Darwin, a freshman. "So I had no idea how the AP test would cover all of what we learned in Human Geography class. Thanks to the practice test, I know how to tackle the real test. The AP questions we did as bell work help a lot."

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

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

"The history reviews that Mr. Wndle and Coach Teuscher helped jog my memory," said Alexandra Wehmeyer, a junior. "They definitely helped when the AP test came."

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

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

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

Tech Tip Tuesday
Tues, May 28 • 1 PM
Intramural Trail Branch Library
Please join us for any of these free sessions:
12:30pm — Word 2012: When you’re new to Word or converting from an older version, this is the class to come to if you can’t find that button Microsoft hid this time.
2pm — iPad and Tablet User Group: This is an open discussion of tips, tricks, and awesome app
6pm — Word 2012: Whether you’re new to Word or converting from an older version, this is the class to come to if you can’t find that button Microsoft hid this time.

For additional information, please call 827-6960.

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

Resident Joe Tillman gave the keynote address to the volunteer residents and he is a Vietnam veteran who is unmis takably recognized around the nursing home by his tie-died apparel and colorful walker.

Tillman said to the crowd how important it is to see how ded icated all the volunteers are. It was a fun day for all involved.

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Garden party cont. from pg. 1

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got news?
editor@thecreekline.com
Tell your local emergency room you're on your way

No matter what your medical issue, you can let the Memorial Emergency Care Center Julington Creek know in advance that you are on your way.

Here’s how:

1. Download the free, mobile application iTriage from the iTunes® App store or Android™ Marketplace. Then, launch the iTriage app and:
   - Choose “Find a medical provider”
   - Select “Emergency department”
   - Locate “Memorial Emergency Care Center Julington Creek”
   - Click the orange “Notify” button to explain your symptoms prior to your ER visit.

Locate on Race Track Road, just west of Veterans Parkway, the Memorial Emergency Care Center Julington Creek is staffed 24/7 by emergency room physicians.

With dedicated pediatric rooms, a lab and imaging, this emergency care center is just like a hospital ER.

Tell your local emergency room you’re on your way

So Intriguing, So Sawgrass.

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

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

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

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

2) Start thinking about classes now: Although it might seem too early to think about your fall schedule, it never is. Research the courses that are required for any majors that you are interested in and take a look at university-wide requirements. Here at UPenn, a writing seminar is required for all students prior to graduation. I was advised to take it first semester and I’m glad I did; I got it out of the way and was able to spend spring semester focused on classes that were of greater interest to me. Although course listings might not become available until later in the summer, it’s always a good idea to gain advice and search class reviews online so you can form a rough idea of what you’d like your semester to entail.

3) Utilize local alumni: Upon admittance to your university, you undoubtedly received countless invitations to local alumni events and meetings. Grasp this opportunity to network with past and current students who are actively involved in your college community. Sure, these brunches and get-togethers might be awkward, but you should never pass up the chance to meet someone who can put in a good word for you when you want that summer internship or can at least tell you which professors to avoid. In any case you will get free food.

4) Enjoy the next few months: The summer after high school is one of the most glorious limbos I have ever experienced. There are no summer assignments, no expectations – just time with friends and family, holding on to every special moment and memory. The days will be marked by a vague urgency as you realize that the time is limited before your classmates pack up one by one and head to school. But days will also be marked by optimism and an exhilarating fear that can only be the result of drastic change. Fret not – enjoy every second, but look forward to the end. Because the end is really the beginning, and there are so many great things waiting for you there.

The hallowed halls of the University of Pennsylvania are not as intimidating as they may seem.
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May is Healthy Vision Month

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6.) Don’t smoke: Research has shown an increased risk of developing age-related macular degeneration, cataract and age-related macular degeneration and glaucoma.

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

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

Dr. Javier concludes, “Early detection of any eye disease is so important, so if you haven’t had an eye exam in the past year, schedule one today.”

Clay Eye Physicians and Surgeons offers comprehensive eye care in the following specialties: cataract surgery, cornea surgery, medical retina, diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration, glaucoma surgery, LASIK Surgery, cosmetic eye procedures, pediatric ophthalmology and pediatric eye exams.

Be sure to look for their ad in this issue of The CreekLine!

A message from the St. Johns River Water Management District...

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

The United States Naval Academy (USNA) invited a select group of approximately 2,950 young men and women from around the nation and abroad to attend the Naval Academy Summer Seminar program this year. Summer Seminar is a fast-paced leadership experience for rising seniors in high school. This program helps educate, motivate and prepare selected students who are considering applying for admission to USNA. William Duncan, Scott Jones and Nicole Thaddeus from Nease High School, will participate in the 2013 United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar program.

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

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

For more information about the Naval Academy, please visit www.usna.edu or the USNA Admissions Facebook page.
Summer Camps cont. on pg. 25

What to do with the children this summer?

Featured Summer Camps and Activities 2013

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

Looking for camp, intensive dance or classes? Mark Spivak’s Summer Program offers Fun Dance Camp that attracts children back year after year! Creative kids thrive in our dance and arts based camp. We aim to teach your child different styles of dance, dance history, visual and performing arts, as well as physical fitness. Let your child explore his or her creativity. We strive to support each camper’s individual needs in a safe supportive environment. We are proud to state that many of our campers return year after year!

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

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

Swimming Safari Swim School is dedicated to teaching children and adults to enjoy the water and ultimately learn to swim. With many years of experience (over 50) and an enjoyable, gentle way, we teach all to stay safe, appreciate the water, and gain confidence in swimming. All our instructors are not only certified through the American Red Cross in CPR and first aid, but have over 30 additional hours of training in and out of the water in the best methods for teaching swimming endorsed through The United States Swim School Association. We have locations all over Jacksonville and offer classes for infants through adults. For additional information, please visit www.swimmingsafari.com/

Switzerland Dance School has been bringing the joy of dance to the Mandarin and Switzerland communities since 1975. The abilities and needs of each student are fostered and nurtured in a loving environment. The children, their character and talents are valued and strengthened through our dance programs. A variety of classes are offered: ballet (including lyrical, character and modern), tap, pointe, hip hop, wigggle giggle, adult classes and cheer/dance. We use dance to develop character and life skills including spiritual principles, discipline and self-confidence, etiquette and healthy body image, math and memory skills, teamwork and dependability and foreign language. Visit www.switzerlanddanceschool.com to learn more.

Summer Camps cont. on pg. 25
Summer Camp & Activities Guide

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Three fun-filled days at Hickory Creek
By Contributing Writers Coach Bobby Brill and Laurie Angott

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

Hickory Creek Elementary School recently held its 2013 Field Day. The purpose of the event is for students to participate in physical education activities, enjoy friendly competition with their classmates and most importantly, have fun. The students participated by grade level on different days. Kindergarten and first grade kicked off the three-day event. They were followed by the second and third graders. The last day of the competition concluded with grades fourth and fifth.

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

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

Second Grade: Torrey Ford
First Grade: Colleen Begley
Fourth Grade: Jennifer Lee
Fifth Grade: Sue Benes

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

Wards Creek May update
By Contributing Writer Ricke Ricciardelli, Corresponding Secretary, WCE PTO

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

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

The Wards Creek Spring Leadership Festival is Friday, May 17 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We will have bounce houses, rock climbing wall, dunk tank, obstacle courses, face painting and many other fun activities. We will have food vendors and many, many wonderful baskets up for raffle. The sky’s the limit! Plan on a fun family night.

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

The Piranhas Swim Team
NOW ENROLLING
www.palenciapiranhas.org
Our program offers recreational and year round swimming programs that are designed to emphasize the fundamentals of swimming and healthy competition!

The only place more loving is in your arms.

Schools celebrate business partners
Durbin Creek Elementary and Fruit Cove Middle recently held a business partner social at Latitude 30. Many thanks for all of your support! Photos courtesy of Delridge Video and Photography.
We’re Building Something Special

Episcopal Early Learning Academy at San Jose opens August 2013

At Episcopal Early Learning Academy you will find a home-like environment that is warm and inviting. Nurturing early childhood professionals provide a sense of security that encourages children age 6 weeks-VPK to explore and investigate the world around them.

Now Pre-Registering!
Visit our website at episcopalearlylearning.com for updates on construction progress and admissions.

904-674-6222

Keystone Summer Camp

The Summer Social Skills Camp offered by Keystone Behavioral Pediatrics is a high quality program that provides instruction in a 5:2 child to staff ratio, while using evidence-based practices in social skills training. A variety of social skills domains will be addressed on-site and within the community. Once registration is complete, we will meet with each family to conduct a skills assessment to determine areas of concern regarding social skills, play skills, communication, and self-help/functional living skills.

• July 1st-5th • July 8th-13th • July 15th-19th • July 22nd-26th
9:00am - 2:00pm
with child care offered between 8:00am-9:00am and 2:00pm-6:00pm

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Congratulations to Katelyn Felegy, daughter of RT Publishing, Inc. graphic designer Lisa Felegy, who was recently announced as the winner of the Bob Wright Memorial Scholarship. According to Kristi Ackley, program assistant for organizational development of the Initiative Foundation, Felegy earned the scholarship due to her leadership, academic accomplishments and initiative in community and extracurricular activities. Felegy will be attending Canisius College in Buffalo, New York, where she will play on the school’s soccer team and major in a medical-related field of study. The Bob Wright Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a family member of an Independent Free Papers of America (IFPA)-affiliated publication and this is the second time that a family member of local company RT Publishing, Inc. has earned the scholarship.
San Juan Del Rio Catholic School
1714 Florida 13, St Johns, FL 32259 • (904) 287-8081

SJDR Catholic School welcomes you and your little saint to join us for an exciting new school year!

- We are currently enrolling students for our free, VPK program.
- We are also registering students in pre-K 3 and grades K-8.
- All of our teachers are State of Florida certified!
- Our rigorous academic program of study is provided by the Diocese of St. Augustine.
- SJDR’s early childhood program has been named as one of the areas-best Christian Early Childhood centers by the Child Development Education Alliance 2013.

Contact Janice Clark at 287-8081 to arrange a tour.

Bunny Buddies celebrate a decade at JCE

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

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

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

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

The second graders are proud of what they have made and are anxious to give them to another child in need. We will continue this service again for the next school year, as part of our Character Counts! program.

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Last Day of School
June 4
St. Johns County Public Schools
Ah, spring break in Florida. Time to go to the beach, make pilgrimages to the theme parks of Orlando and get away from it all. Well, if you think you got away from it all, try to beat this—while most Creekside students were relaxing in the Florida sun, two groups of students boarded buses and planes to two different ends of the Earth, with striking similarities!

New Orleans and its eclectic French Quarter greeted hordes of band students as they began their adventure. Jazz poured out of every part of the trip, their way sharing what they love to do.”

The Jazz Band played in Dutch Alley, toured the town, experienced local cuisine, walked through the National World War II Museum and even let loose, New Orleans style! “The most memorable moment of the trip would have to be at Michael’s Cajun restaurant, when every person on the trip got up and danced together on the smallest little dance floor and everyone just completely let go and had fun, even those who claim they don’t dance,” Devaney explained.

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

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

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

Victoria Borntraeger, like many on the trip, had a moment of reflection. “After climbing the stairs up to the second floor of the Eiffel tower, we discovered a little city of Paris beneath you, you just know that you’re on a trip of a lifetime,” she concluded.
Meet Creeks Soccer Technical Directors

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

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

www.creeksoccer.com

Drama Kids & Young Rembrandts Summer Camps

By popular demand we are offering two camps this summer! Don’t Miss Out!! Join us for a truly unique camp adventure that will spark your imagination while developing confidence and self-esteem. Campers ages 6-12 will experience a camp that is a combination of performing and visual arts activities. Activities are designed to promote confidence and self-esteem.

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

At The Goddard School®, summer is full of fun and learning. Energetic teams of teachers plan developmentally appropriate activities to instill a lifelong love of learning. Children are exposed to science and nature, mathematics, computers and technology, literature and language, music and movement, sports and games and special visitors that provide exciting learning opportunities in a safe and secure environment. Children march in playground parades, learn about creepy crawlies, send letters to pen pals and enjoy splash splash days. To discover how Goddard can make this summer your child’s best learning experience yet, please visit www.goddardschool.com.

Sessions Modeling Agency has been in business for 29 years. Each summer we open our agency in Mandarin for all ages to attend our Summer Camp activities. We are offering 10 six-day Modeling Camps for teens and children, running from June through August from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Here you get the royal treatment, including fabulous makeup for our teens, trendy hair styles, photo sessions and a fashion show. For children, we include social etiquette and poise and how to act in television commercials. Extended day care is available and campers should bring a sack lunch. Register online at sessionsmodeling.com.

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

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Summer Camps cont. on pg. 26
Pediatric Associates of Julington Creek, PA
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Mary Ann García, M.D., FAAP
Victor Luz, M.D., FAAP
Board Certified
Tami Newbern, ARNP

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

Jacksonville Ice and Sportsplex offers the coolest camp experience with ice skating and hockey camps. Learn to Skate camps are ideal for any level skater—especially first timers! Before and after care is available as well as lunch programs offering several nutritious choices. Camp weeks are all themed, so whether your child comes for one or all, the experience will be unique. Each week ends with an ice show where campers show off their new skills to family and friends. For more experienced skaters, we offer elite camps during select weeks. All camps are staffed by qualified coaches and counselors and offer an array of activities both on and off the ice. For those just supplementing other summer activities, check out our Learn to Skate classes continuing throughout the summer www.jaxiceandsportsplex.com.

Mark your calendar for Feel the Wheels
Ever wondered how a bull-dozer works? Or how to raise the bucket on an excavator? Or how a police officer turns on the siren? On Saturday, June 1, you and your family have the opportunity to find out the answers together!
The Junior Service League of St. Augustine (JSL) is proud to present Feel the Wheels, a fundraiser benefiting The Children’s Museum of St. Johns (CMSJ). Feel the Wheels will be set up in front of the St. Augustine Outlet Mall on the east side of Interstate 95 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We invite you to explore construction vehicles, semi-trucks, service vehicles, boats and much, much more! A variety of hands-on, children’s activities will be provided at the event to add to the festive atmosphere, including a Big Wheels course and a remote controlled race car track. A variety of delicious food items will be available from local food vendors, including Zaxby’s, Cold Cow Ice Cream and many more.
Tickets are $5 for children three and up. Adults and children under three receive free admission. All of the proceeds from Feel the Wheels will go toward helping establish the Children’s Museum of St. Johns (CMSJ) here in St. Augustine. For more information please visit www.facebook.com/ExploreCMSJ or contact Stephanie Hunter at stephaniehunter@jslofstaugustine.org.

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Please register at creekssoccer.com

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

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

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

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

Creekside’s class, led by teacher Lynda Kelly, learned about Medicare plans, guidelines and tips for choosing Medicare, “I don’t know anything about Medicare,” said Lynda Kelly. “Many grandparents. “

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

Florida Blue addressed Medicare questions and provided helpful handouts. Then the audience rated the “senior-friendliness of students” presented. Prizes were awarded to the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan team who achieved the highest rating. Awards were also presented to MVPs from all five teams. Best of all, the team’s finish in 11th place ensured them a spot in the top 15 teams who qualified for finals the following day.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Medicare matters to Creekside students and JCP seniors

Creekside MVA Adrienne Lim, David Kien, Michael Claudio, Kayla Tooley, presentations. Prizes were awarded to the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan team who achieved the highest rating. Awards were also presented to MVPs from all five teams. Best of all, each student received a letter of endorsement from Elizabeth Strombom, senior vice president of government markets at Florida Blue.

“This project provided life lessons that students will never forget,” said Lynda Kelly. “Many academy students have extend- ed family that lives nearby and this initiative offered a great opportunity to meaningfully connect with their parents and grandparents.”
Dog lovers establish scholarship for dog obedience training

By Contributing Writer Julie Parker

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

“During the last two years we have been able to establish a unique Be A Pack Leader Dog Walking Club Dog Training Scholarship Fund in partnership with the St. Augustine Humane Society. Generous financial support and yard sale contributions from dog lovers and dog walkers have enabled the club to establish a $10,000 annual scholarship fund to send dogs and their humans to basic obedience dog training classes. Because of our partnership with the St. Augustine Humane Society, a $501(c)3 non-profit organization, anyone who is interested in donating to the dog training scholarship fund can receive a tax deduction.

“I strongly believe in dog training because of experiences with my own dogs and dogs in the club that often have common problems such as aggressiveness, overactivity, hyperactivity, lunging and pulling. It was no surprise to find out that behavior problems are one of the most common reasons people relinquish their dogs to a shelter and that 96 percent of the dogs in shelters have received no obedience training according to the World Report last month. Because of this serious lack of training, especially for dogs that end up in shelters and the high euthanasia rate, the dog walking club wants to do something to help alleviate this problem for dogs in St. Johns County.”

“Towards achieving the Be A Pack Leader Dog Walking Club and the dog training scholarship application, please visit www.beapackledergedogwalkingclub.com.”

Spotlight on Students

Lexi Cunin, a student at Nease High School, was named Lombardi Scholar at the University of Florida. She chooses only 11 students statewide to receive their prestigious Lombardi Scholarship. “The scholarship not only helps fund their UF education, but provides four summers’ worth of studying abroad, internships, academic research and other enrichment programs designed to enhance student leadership and problem-solving skills, encourage service to the community, increase confidence and integrate classroom learning with real-world experience. This is an enormous honor and we all wish her the best of luck!”

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

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

Capital campaign successfully completed

On March 17, River Garden completed its capital campaign, Building our Future…Together, raising over $7,660,000. During the agency’s annual meeting, Martin A. Goetz, River Garden CEO, gave a special thank you to the agency’s annual meeting, Martin A. Goetz, River Garden CEO, gave a special thank you to the agency’s Development Director, Kathy Osterer. “Our commitment to quality of medical care by the staff through ongoing inspections, nurse staffing and quality of medical care by the staff”

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How to successfully housetrain a new puppy

By Contributing Writer Renee Knischeck, dog training and problem solving

One of your first tasks upon getting a new puppy is to train him to relieve himself in the correct place. Here are some tips to help you go smoothly.

Begin by choosing a location where they should sleep. Also, give the puppy a chew toy or stuffed dog to keep him busy while you are not around. Alternatively, you can tie the puppy to your waist using a 10 to 15 foot leash. When you are at home, keep the puppy in a crate. Dogs do not like to relieve themselves if they are not supervised.

At three weeks of age, a puppy can only “hold it” for 45 minutes. When you leave the puppy alone, take him outside every 45 minutes. As you are taking your dog outside, say the command word "potty." Praise your puppy as soon as she has finished.

If you have left your dog with someone else and he has relieved himself in your absence, do not punish him. Don’t rub his nose in it. You let him have access to the house before he was ready. Even if you believe that punishment is appropriate, it is too late now. After time has elapsed, he won’t know why he is being punished.

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

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

PBMS PTSO celebrates Arts Around the World

By Contributing Writer Sharon Davis

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

Pacetti Bay Middle School hosted "Arts Around the World" on April 23. This event showcased some of Pacetti Bay School and its feeder elementary schools’ performing and visual art programs, and emphasized the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IB), which Pacetti Bay was accredited at the beginning of the school year.

It focused on all the arts from a global perspective.

The evening progressed with performances by the PBMS cheerleaders, chorus, bands, performing arts, and perchace groups.

A special peak was given of the PBMS eighth grade musical, High School Musical, which was presented in full on May 7.

The Ward Creek Elementary chorus also performed.

By Contributing Writer Carol A. Higley

The Rotary Club of Bartram Trail is proud to announce that the Rotary Club of Bartram Trail’s third Teacher of the Quarter award was recently presented to Rotarian Michael Andreni and Randy Johnson at Liberty Fine Arts Academy. Each quarter, the Rotary Club of Bartram Trail works with school principals for nominations of teachers that exemplify excellence in education.

This quarter the award was presented to Amanda Lin, an eighth grade social studies teacher at Liberty Fine Arts Academy (LFA). In addition to her daily educator duties, she is responsible for organizing the annual eighth grade field trip to Washington D.C., producing the magnificent annual eighth grade memory CD.

She is known as a very popular and effective teacher at the school.

One of her current students said, “She is always there to help you if you do not understand something.” She takes things deeper for you. And she is not there just as a teacher; you can go to her for anything.” Another student added, “Ms. Lin has a positive history better of her because of her.”

Judith Thayer, LFA principal, commented, “Ms. Lin challenges her students to be good citizens and inspires them to be lifelong learners. Her love of students is infectious. Her leadership is exemplary.”

Martin, joined by her husband, was recognized at the April 11 Rotary Club meeting.

Thanks to our business partner sponsors, Bazzard Ford of Bartram Walk Xavby’s for their support. We are proud to collaboratively recognize model educators in our local community.

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

The St. Johns County Horse Council will be hosting its second annual Horse Farm Tour on Saturday, May 18. Three farms will be featured, each offering various demonstrations, activities, food, prizes and giveaways. This event is free to the public.

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

The tour continues at 12:00 noon at Picatilas Farms, located at 7540 County Road 208. Featured vendors are Optimal Horse Boarding Environment at Picatilas Farms, Atlantic Veterinary Hospital, Farrier Brian Tim- diel, Western Saddle maker, Hal Rogers of Saddle Creek Ranch, Old City Life Magazine, Korner Feed Supply and Diamonds in the Rough Rescue. This tour will feature a demonstration by Cindy Norman of Norman Natural Horsemanship. Lunch will be served by Hot Diggity Dawgs.

The tour concludes at 1:30 p.m. at Steppingstone Farm, located at 2191 Tocoi Terrace, owned by Nina Fisher. Steppingstone has been in business since 1998 and offers lesson programs, camps and showing opportunities for children and adults from beginner to intermediate level. This tour will feature farrier Carrer Fisher, who will provide a demonstration on hoof care and trimming and horse trainer Jerry Taylor, who will demonstrate the process of desensitization to create a calm, willing equine partner. There will also be stations on saddles and equipment that is used for riding, as well as various horse care products. There will be activities for the kids such as pony cart rides and a Horseless Jump Course! Dessert will also be offered.

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

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Newcomers finish season
By Contributing Writer Marcia Smith

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

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

Entertainment will feature Reggie Lee who has been performing for the past 25 years. He is known throughout the Jack- sonville area as a fantastic singer and musician. He will be performing a tribute to the sounds of yesteryear including Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Lou Armstrong, Lou Rawls, Elvis Presley and others.

Please RSVP by May 14 and note that there are no refunds. Please indicate your entree choice at the bottom of your check and mail to NNSJ, 4956 Blackhawk Dr., St. Johns, FL 32259. For additional information or questions, please email Deb at debkolasinsky@att.net. Please mark your calendars for our next season beginning on September 17 with our meeting/luncheon to renew your club friendships!

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**LADY RAIDERS WIN MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP**

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

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

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

Playing in front of a packed house at Fruit Cove Middle School, the Lady Raiders played at the highest level that they had played all season, beating Fruit Cove (25 – 17, 25 – 17) in just two games. Caroline Coley, Blair Register, Danielle Earl and Ashlyn Harper, Head Coach Becky Burney, Danielle Earl, Sarah Uruburu, Reedy Davenport, manager Launy Wheeler, manager Chloe Andrews and Lauren Stanford.

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

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

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

The next Conversation Cafe will be held Thursday, May 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the topic is: “Social Media and Your Teen” is a timely one. If you are a parent or grandparent of a teen or pre-teen, you won’t want to miss this informative panel presentation which will feature an attorney, an expert in social media and a law enforcement officer. The Conversation Cafe is a series of health-related topics, sponsored by the Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS). We meet at JFCS, located at 6261 Dupont Station Court, East. The series is free, but RSVPs are required as we provide lunch. For more information, please contact hilhi@jfcsjax.org or 394-5782.

If you ever spent time in the Catskills, you know that the memories stay with you forever. Believe it or not, there are many people in Northeast Florida who have a Catskills’ connection. To keep this unique New York state tradition alive, we are offering a Catskill Gal class. This class will be held in a casual coffeehouse-type setting where people gather for conversation. The series is free, but RSVPs are required as we provide lunch. For more information, please contact hhill@fcctoday.com or 556-6570.

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Vacation Bible School
Kids who’ve completed K – 5th Grade
June 10th – 14th
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
June 16th at 10 am
Worship & Family Picnic
Register TODAY at www.fcctoday.com

Daycare services offered.

Vacation Bible School for kids who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. The VBS will be held June 10 through June 14 in the evening from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. For more information, please contact hhill@jfcsjax.org or 394-5782.

Faith News

Betty Griffin House of St. Johns County
Emergency shelter for abused women and their minor children
24 hour crisis hotline: (904) 824-1555

Happy Mother’s Day! I hope you enjoyed a relaxing day celebrating family and motherhood. I hope whether you were given handwritten cards and weed bouquets or Claude’s chocolate and dinner out, you felt loved by your family.

Tell me, did you have well-wishers telling you “You deserve a day off”? Or did you just want to get away? Or maybe, “I just don’t know how you do it. I couldn’t have juggled all that.”

Most of the time, these well-wishers are trying to compliment moms on the monumental task of teaching, training and loving our precious children while also juggling daily responsibilities. In spite of their good intentions, however, I often find myself feeling suddenly disabled or overwhelmed after receiving these comments. “What do I do it all?” I ask myself, “and why? I really couldn’t have juggled all that.”

Don’t you wish our parents had taught us to teach our children and our mothers to sit in the corner and pout. It isn’t fake to say something hard. When I try to drive with the radio on, I have to listen to my family tell me, “You are not a perfect... so Suzy Homemaker... I hope you had a very happy Mother’s Day. I know some days being a mamma offers as many challenges as it does joys. But I also see the beautiful rewards of sowing biblical principles into our children. My gift to you today would be prayers for you to love your family by giving the gift of joy. A joyful family by choosing joy, kindness and love for one another, it is not fake to say something hard.

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Don’t you wish our parents had taught us how to teach our children and our mothers to sit in the corner and pout. It isn’t fake to say something hard... when you would like to sit in the corner and pout. It is having self-control.

I learned to talk to myself instead of listen to myself. I have learned self-control.

I should say: “I’ll be fun to have a picnic in the backyard for Mother’s Day! I’ll slice some strawberries to go with the PB&Js and make a pot of raspberry iced tea for a cool treat.” I’ll ask the girls to take a blanket out and decorate for a celebration! While that sounds so… perfect… so Suzy Homemaker, so fake, I will argue that we have a lot of control over our attitudes and we mamas need to teach our children and our selves to be content.

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CHS Sports Roundup
By Kasie Solms, CHS Student

Sunshine is finally starting to shine down on the Sun- shine State. As we move into the near end of our 2012-2013 school year. As we start app- roaching flip-flop-wearing weather, our athletes at Creek- side High School are giving us an extra boost of energy and excitement. They have been coming into the spring season with a doubt ended the 2011 spring season with a doubt, as well as the rest of the spring season. Many of our teams have man- aged to advance to regional and state finals. Way to go Knights!

A quick shout out to the boys soccer team! They played a great season this year, ranking in the top four in the state of Florida for most of the season. They have recently moved up to the next round of districts and are we all excited to see how far they will go this year as a team. Congratulations to all those who competed in states for track and field. All of the runners worked extremely hard to get to where they are. After going through some tough competition in their districts and re- gions, the athletes really got to show their true athleticism at this year’s state meet.

On May 10, the Athletic Department held their annual Running of the Nights. Not only did participants get the chance to run centipede chains in the 5K, but could also show off their school spirit! The Running of the Knights offers both a 5K and a one-mile fun run. For the one-mile running races, there were ten of fun games, activities, blow ups, music and great food to indulge in. Not only does the race work to sponsor our school’s athletic program with new equipment for the following year, but also, it brings community awareness about the mean of Creekside. It is a great time for families to come out and get to experience the family of Knights that they can maybe one day be a part of. Thank you, to all that were a sponsor and made the event a great success!

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

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

BTHS Sports Roundup
By Megan Grant, BTHS Student

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

As the school year starts to wind down, so does the falls. In order to play in the championship game, the winners of training called “Blue Dawn” to whip them back into shape. This consists of before school workouts and intense condition- ing. Although it’s challenging to juggle the demands of practices, the players have been eager to get back on the field and the game. The game will take place on Friday, May 24, at Flagler Palm Coast High School. The spring season is also an amiple time for college recruit- ing. Coaches are allowed to come and observe the football players at their practices and in the spring game. This opens up a great deal of opportunity for players wanting to compete at the next level in the future.

Nease Sports Roundup
By Elena Castello, Nease Student

As the end of the year ap- proaches, sports are coming to an end. The final sports, tennis, baseball, track and field, softball and lacrosse, have had an amazing year, with many things must continue to an end and with celebration banquets, these things must come to an end and many of our teams have trusted the younger girls to intense prac- tice, good morale, and a strong sense of teamwork.

Track and field did ex- tremely well in districts, with the girls winning runners up and the boys placing in top 10. There is always a great amount of opportunity for young girls to intense prac- tice, good morale, and a strong sense of teamwork.

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Nease have come to an end, the seniors have come to an end, the girls, the boys, the seniors and juniors. The Nease seniors will be missed and new oppor- tunities will be opened for those who rise to the occasion. Go Panthers!

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

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CHS girls’ lacrosse finishes successful season

By Contributing Writer Mona Mangor

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

The team graduates five seniors, including captains JC Householder, Kelly McCormack and Gabby Norkus. The Knights also spent a considerable amount of the off season dedicated to helping others by participating in over 206 hours of community service with organizations such as the Wounded Warrior Project, Field of Dreams and JCP CARES. Go Knights!

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

- All the parents of the players
- Varsity head coach, Amy Purcell
- Varsity assistant coach, Jamie Donnelly
- Junior varsity head coach, Jeff Greenert
- Principal, Randy Johnson
- Athletic Department director, Guy Harris
- Athletic Department trainer, Ryan Boyer
- Athletic Department secretary, Tina Northcut
- Team liaison, Jamie Godfrey
- Varsity manager, Mark Mengel
- JV manager, Lizzie Rockefeller
- Team Mom/volunteer coordinator, Fonda Mosal
- Pre-game meals coordinators, Susan Zyserman and Amy Cetino
- Announcers, James Farris and Reb Dunn
- Stats, Caryn Greenert and Joe McCormack
- Fundraising coordinator, Banquet coordinator, Lisa Brasley
- Booster Club liaison/Equipment sales, Jim Dwyer
- Bennett Landscaping and Maintenance, Blair Bennett
- Lawn Designs, Steve Norkus
- Family Chiropractic, Augustin Oliveira
- Jeanne Bernstein
- Lauren Smith
- John and Kathy Pelletier
- Margery and David Stein
- Amie Brousseau
- Delores and Mark Marks
- Linda and Michael Stein
- Karen and John Vlez
- Carol and Joe Pellegrino
- Karen and Steve Lyman
- Jennifer and Greg Marks
- Catherine and Mark Marks
- Susan and Rick Lyman
- Karen and Mark Vlez
- Karen and Steve Pellegrino
- An unknown donor who contributed significant funds
- The PTO for the students
- The church congregation for their support of the team
- The local businesses that supported the team financially
- The school administration and staff for their support

varsity team
National Safe Boating week kickoff event

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

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

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Business Profile!

Kathryn Auldridge, a senior at Bishop Kenny High School, formally committed to play soccer at Baldwin Wallace University. After visiting several campuses and weighing several offers, she chose Baldwin Wallace University for its high quality of academics and strong soccer program. BWU is located in Berea, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Auldridge has lived in seven states and two different cities in Germany before moving to Florida as a junior. She and her parents, John D. Auldridge II and Stephanie Skelley, now live in Fruit Cove. Auldridge has enjoyed playing for BKHS coach Scott Thomas and JYSC coach Marc Osterberg.

Invisible Fence of the First Coast can also solve barking and training problems in small and large yards. Boundary Plus® is exclusive new technology that allows pets to use every square inch of the yard. That provides up to 30% more play area versus traditional electronic containment. It’s the perfect solution for narrow beach lots and zero lot line properties alike. And, you don’t have to be a new customer to benefit. Existing customers can update their old system to Boundary Plus® with our cost effective upgrade programs.

If you need solutions for indoor areas and are tired of your pet chewing your best shoes, clawing your favorite chair or eating your kids’ toys, they can help! Shields® Avoidance solutions create pet free zones to protect the things you care about. Invisible Fence of the First Coast can also solve barking and training issues and provide durable pet fencing, fountains, waters, fountains and dog doors with access specified for your pet only.

VFA announces registration

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

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

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

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

By Contributing Writer Lorraine Herreros

On April 13 the JCLA Loggerhead Swim Team hosted their “5 x 5” Sprint Meet at the Julington Creek Plantation Recreation Center competition pool. Visiting teams in attendance included the Spartan Aquatic Club, Beaches Aquatic Club, Planet Swim Aquatics, High Tide Aquatics, and the YMCA of Florida’s First Coast. While the swimmers and coaches concentrated on turning out spectacular performances in the pool, dozens of Loggerhead parents volunteered behind the scenes to make sure the meet ran smoothly. This year’s edition, the meet was a great success, with many visiting teams expressing interest in returning next year.

Each swimmer at the “5 x 5” competed in five individual events with the top point scorer in each age group earning a medal and the title of High Point Winner. Loggerhead High Point Winners included Olivia Moore for the 6 and under girls, 8-year-olds Emma Revels and Aidan Paro, 9-year-olds Anna Moore and Nicky Tayag, Megan Shaffer for the 10-year-old girls, Summer Stanfield for the 11-year-old girls, 12-year-old Aubrey Miller, 13-year-old Eleanor Follitt and 14-year-olds Jane Wadehams and Carter Strickland. In the “open” category JCLA High Point Winners were 17-year-olds Caitlyn Johnson and John Brennock. Super swimming, Loggerheads!

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

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

Mosquito Control District gains international recognition with workshop

By Karl Kennel

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

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

That evening there was a dinner and lecture for all the attendees. The keynote speaker was Dr. Greg Hodges, bureau chief, DACS/DPI who gave an overview of the programs of the Bureau of Entomology, Nematology and Plant Pathology. His speech included a very interesting presentation of the many invasive plants, animals and insects attacking the ecosystem of Florida.

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

The presenters and attendees made up a “Who’s Who” of entomologists from around the world. In addition to representatives from universities and organizations from around the USA and Canada, there were representatives from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Hong Kong, China and the Department of vector Control and Disinfection, Jiangsu CDC, Nanjing, China and other international organizations.

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

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

Thank you for reading

The CreekLine!

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