Help Mandarin Food Bank share a Happy Thanksgiving

By Karl Kennell

Volunteers Joseph Clevenger, Robert McGouey and Bill Armstrong

Donations of food throughout the year help keep the pantry stocked with the variety of food that we take for granted. Even though this is very generous, it does not help the need felt right here in our neighborhood during the holiday season, particularly Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Mandarin Food Bank relies exclusively on the charity and generosity of the neighbors and businesses right here in the Mandarin area—but during the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving and Christmas the pantry struggles to help those in need to have a traditional dinner, an event of joy and family that so many of us take for granted. It is important this year that Mandarin steps forward to help fill our area’s need so that each of us can celebrate the holidays with a traditional meal. During these times of economic stress, those seeking a little help have grown exponentially. To help the Mandarin Food Bank and the community, Mandarin Newsline is asking individuals and local businesses to meet the need of these families particularly around the holidays. We must remember that these are our neighbors who find themselves in the very challenging position of just putting food on the table for their children and themselves. One just needs to visit the Mandarin Food Bank on any given weekday morning to realize the impact the organization has on these families—families which are like yours.

Volunteers are challenged every day to fill the bags for the clients, carefully stocking from shelves that from day to day hold different quantities and types of food. One bag is used for protein, which may contain cans of tuna fish, beans and peanut butter; another bag is filled with canned vegetables, fruit and soup—hopefully 10 cans total per client. There is a bag for cereal, coffee, tea and other drinks. Toilet paper, soap and laundry supplies are included in another bag. Mandarin Food Bank cont. on pg. 13

Mandarin Middle School Hawks celebrate former player

By Karl Kennell

On Monday, October 1, Jacksonville Jaguar offensive guard Jason Spitz was presented with an honor he doubtless never expected when his football journey began. Jason Spitz was driven in convertibles. That night at the football game, he was defintely excited to come out and watch. The winning float was awarded the Mandarin Jaguar Spitz’s future accomplishments formed on the MMS football field. He went on to attend Boiles, where he was a first team All-First Coast selection as a two-way lineman. In his senior year he had 10 sacks and 56 total tackles. His prowess on the field continued at the University of Louisville, where he started all four years for the Cardinals and was named first-team All-Big East. At Louisville he was originally meant to be redshirted his freshman year, but was made the starting right guard during the game in 2002. In 2003, Spitz had a highly successful junior season and started all 12 games at right guard. That year the Cardinal offense led Division 1-A in total offense, scoring and passing efficiency. With Duke in 2002. In 2003, Spitz had a highly successful junior season and started all 12 games at right guard. That year the Cardinal offense led Division 1-A in total offense, scoring and passing efficiency. His retirement cont. on pg. 15
Emergency care that’s good for your heart.

Baptist Medical Center South now offers intervention heart catheterization, which means that heart attacks caused by blocked arteries can be quickly treated with balloon angioplasty. The quicker angioplasty is performed to open a blocked artery, the better the outcome.

Specialized teams for chest pain and stroke.

Baptist South specializes in rapid diagnosis and treatment of chest pain and stroke and is nationally recognized for meeting high standards for emergency care and use of evidence-based protocols that are proven to improve outcomes.

If you have symptoms such as a tight ache, pressure, or squeezing in your chest or a sudden, severe headache with blurred vision, remember that seeking immediate help can save your life.

The hospital of the future, just minutes away.

If you’ve never been to Baptist South, you might be surprised at all the ways we make your experience as stress-free as possible:

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- electronic medical records
- easy parking
- high-tech, quality, efficient care
- family-friendly environment

14550 Old St. Augustine Road at I-95

Emergency care that’s good for your heart.

We’d like to send you a free mouse pad.

Keep our contact information at your fingertips! Call us at 202.CARE (2273) and we’ll send a free Baptist South mouse pad to your home.

BAPTIST Medical Center South

14550 Old St. Augustine Road at I-95

Emergencies come in all sizes.

Come to Baptist South where we’re equipped to deal with emergencies of almost every shape and size with our newly expanded ER.

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Having JP Perry shop their insurance... Well, you get the idea! Expect more...Get more! More Choices • More Service • More Savings • If it’s Insurance... JP Perry does it better!
Letters to the Editor policy

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

Correction:
Due to a reporting and editing error, MHS student musician Blake Temple’s last name appeared incorrectly in the article about the local band, “It’s just a ‘State of Mind’ for teen band.” In the October 2012 issue of Mandarin NewsLine.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

The Mandarins Council of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce’s largest and best event is the 16th annual Chili Cook-off! Come join us again this year on Sunday, November 17 at the RiverPlace Shopping Center on San Jose Boulevard. Many thanks to Title Sponsor Verizon Wireless as well as Gold Sponsors Robert E. Burke, CPA, Mandarin NewsLine (RT Publishing, Inc.), VyStar Credit Union and Rainbow International and Silver Sponsors Care Spot, Florida Imageworks and Design and Legrand’s Steak and Seafood. If you are interested in being a sponsor of this great event or sharing your famous chili recipe by being a cooker/constestant, please contact Mark Goldberg at 406-7232.

The Mandarin Community Club will observe Veterans Day with a wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday, November 11. The Club will observe Veterans Day with a wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday, November 11. The public is invited to attend this event scheduled for 3:00 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial located within the Billiard Park, located at 11642 Brady Road. For further information, please call 268-1612.

The AARP Driver Safety Program for drivers 50 and older will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, November 13 and 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Memorial Hospital, located at 3625 University Boulevard South. AARP members’ fee is $12; non-members’ fee is $14. This course is for veterans and their dependents in November and you must attend both days for certification to qualify for auto insurance discount. To register, please call 391-1210.

The River City Women’s Club monthly luncheon meeting will be held at the Mandarin Ramada Inn beginning at 10:30 a.m. on November 21. Mary Habres of Core Home Staging and Redesign will present a program on ideas for making changes in your home that will give it a new look. Visitors are welcome. The cost of the luncheon is $15.50. Please call 268-8791 for reservations.

The Dogwood Circle of the Mandarin Garden Club will meet on November 13, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mandarin Garden Club, located at 2892 Loretto Road. The November program will be a presentation on flower and wreath arrangements for the holidays. Our circle would love to have anyone interested in this topic join us a guest on November 13. Refreshments will be served. Please call 571-6765 for information. You can access the club website at http://home.comcast.net/~harper113.

The Mandarin Women’s Club program for Thursday, November 15 is Game Day, which includes Bridge, Bunco, Mah Jongg and Mexican Train. This program will be held at the Ramada Inn, located at 3110 Hartley Road and doors open at 10:30 a.m. Club membership is open to all women no matter where they live. The price of the luncheon is $15.50 for members and $16.50 for non-members. Reservations are required; please call Marilyn at 260-8431 by November 10 for information. You can access the club website at http://home.comcast.net/~echoecho46/site/mandarinmuseum.

The Italian American Club would like to thank all its friends and neighbors in Mandarin for their continued attendance at our Festa Italiana. Many of you have been coming to Festa for years and it is so appreciated! We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a club dinner and general meeting on Sunday November 18 at 1:00 p.m. We will also have election of officers and discuss the theme for our Winter Celebration, a special family day of fun and educational activities at the Walter Jones Historical Park, located at 11964 Mandarin Road from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1. Activities include hayrides, choirs from the Mandarin Presbyterian and Philip R. Cousin AME churches, traditional and original folk music, the Jacksonville Community Band, Lindsay Schwierterman-Fait portraying Harriet Beecher Stowe, museum and historic Webb Farmhouse tours, crafts, historic re-enactments, train rides, old-fashioned children’s games, food and more. For more information, please call 268-0784, email us at mandarinmuseum@bellsouth.net or visit our website www.mandarinmuseum.net. You can also check us out at www.facebook.com/mandarinmuseum.

The Mediterranean Council of the Jacksonville Women’s Club will present a program on ideas for making changes in your home that will give it a new look. Visitors are welcome. The cost of the luncheon is $15.50. Please call 268-8791 for reservations.

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The Mandarin Museum and Historical Society once again hosts Winter Celebration, a special family day of fun and educational activities at the Walter Jones Historical Park, located at 11964 Mandarin Road from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1. Activities include hayrides, choirs from the Mandarin Presbyterian and Philip R. Cousin AME churches, traditional and original folk music, the Jacksonville Community Band, Lindsay Schwierterman-Fait portraying Harriet Beecher Stowe, museum and historic Webb Farmhouse tours, crafts, historic re-enactments, train rides, old-fashioned children’s games, food and more. For more information, please call 268-0784, email us at mandarinmuseum@bellsouth.net or visit our website www.mandarinmuseum.net. You can also check us out at www.facebook.com/mandarinmuseum.
Where does City Hall go from here?

The city’s budget was passed by the City Council on September 15 and implemented on October 1. This new fiscal year brings much anxiety among employees and citizens alike. The city fired hundreds of employees—employees whose institutional knowledge is forever lost. Library hours were shortened and to top it off, they will now be closed an additional day of the week. Initially, the mayor’s budget included moving the right-of-ways only four times a year—thankfully, the City Council found additional money to increase the frequency to 12 times a year that is needed. The money to increase the frequency to 12 times a year—thankfully, the mayor’s budget included moving the right-of-ways only four times a year—thankfully, the City Council found additional money to increase the frequency to 12 times a year that is needed.

My impression is that the City Council will be much more active in the governance of the City Council will be much more active in the governance of the City Council found additional money to increase the frequency, but still not enough for the 12 times a year that is needed.

One glaring example of indecision has cost the city over $50,000 a month. In the spring of this year, the mayor put out on bid for management of the city’s public sports facilities, which SMG has had for over 18 years without a competitive bid. I thought this was a great idea. Two qualified bids were returned, with each saving the city over $50,000 a month. Now here’s the rub. The Jaguars have a veto power over the EverBank facility, and they prefer retaining SMG. The mayor prefers the other bidder who has a relationship with him. So, it’s been four months and counting that the city could have been saving $50,000, because the mayor has not signed a new contract. City Hall continues to pay more instead of saving $50,000 a month. So, as you read this article, the total will be five months or $250,000. Enough said.

On another note, I recently introduced a Resolution which asks the mayor to investigate the benefits of selling JEA. I would like to list several, but not all, of the reasons why I believe we should consider its sale:

1) The only control City Hall has over the JEA is the appointment of its board. Meaning, employee raise are not controlled or reviewed by the city.

2) In lieu of Ad Valorem taxes, the city receives a transfer amount of $106,000,000 a year, increasing only $2,500,000 a year for the next three years.

3) Because of the transfer agreement, the School Board does not collect any ad valorem taxes, which could be more than $40,000,000 a year.

4) If sold for a billion dollars or more, City Hall could get a handle on the pension and pay down the city’s $500,000,000 debt.

5) Comparing our electric rates to those of our neighboring counties, our rates might be lower after a sale. Both Jacksonville Beach and Clay County bid out their electric rates. Who bids for their business? JEA and FPL. I like competition and I think there is no harm in seeking bids for the value of JEA. Finally, is owning an electric utility a core function of government—especially when we have very little control of their operation?

I’ll be the chair of an Ad Hoc Committee that will analyze the potential benefits and/or consequences of selling JEA. Please let me know your thoughts. I can be reached at MattS@coj.net or 630-1388.

Expense Report

The district recognized a limit to the amount of water we could take from our aquifer before our springs would suffer significant damage. But more recently, the district, led by its newly appointed executive director, denied any real connection between water withdrawals and the health of our springs. This denial doesn’t square with the evidence, nor does the denial square with common sense.

Most people understand the following truism: when you withdraw more than you deposit, your account balance goes down. This truism is right on point when it comes to our springs: when the district allows its permit applicants to withdraw more water from our aquifer than Mother Nature can deposit, the springs suffer. If the sorry state of our springs wasn’t bad enough, there’s another problem: the people our governor has chosen to take care of our water don’t know the facts or know the facts and don’t care.

I hope the district takes another look at the evidence and reconsider its position on the potentially harmful effects of water withdrawals.

Dave Milton
Mandarin
Congratulations to our newly selected Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools, Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti. Dr. Vitti was newly selected Superintendent of the Gwinnett County School District and, Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Chief Academic Officer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The three finalists were Dr. Kristin Cash, Superintendent of Memphis City Schools; Dale Robbins, retired Assistant Superintendent of the Gwinnett County School District; and, Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Chief Academic Officer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Again, we conducted a deep vetting, with extensive interviews, personal research, community participation, including sessions with staff, community members, School Board-Elect members and School Board candidates. Your School Board then had another round of Superintendent candidate interviews and, finally, the vote, selecting Dr. Vitti to succeed Superintendent Dr. Dannals. More information about our new Superintendent can be found on the School Board website at www.duvalschools.org.

Let’s all give a warm welcome to Dr. Vitti as he leads our district and builds on the many successes we are having.

The General election for national, state, and local officials was on Tuesday, November 6. The School Board seat for District 7 will be on the ballot. I have been honored and privileged to represent this district for the past eight years and, as I will be leaving the board, my successor will be elected that day. When you vote, please elect the person who you think will continue working with the Mandarin community and its very successful schools. The new board member should be one who will continue to fight for all of our schools in general and further helping our Mandarin schools become even more successful. My thanks goes to our students, teachers, principal staff and, of course, our involved parents. Mandarin High, while it has not received its letter grade for this year (November for high schools) is among the best in the nation.

I would also like to share this year’s Progress Indicators With you. Below is a chart outlining gains made over the past five years.

Important dates:
- November 5: School Board Meeting, Cline Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.
- November 7: Early Dismissal Day
- November 12: Veterans Day, schools and administrative offices closed
- November 21: Weather Day, schools closed
- November 22 – 23: Thanksgiving, schools and administrative offices closed
- November 26: Weather Day, schools closed
- November 28: Early Dismissal Day

Thought for the Month: "When you wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are, anything your heart desires will come to you." Jimmie Cricket (lyrics by Leigh Harline and Ned Washington)

What’s New cont. on pg. 11
The Sheriff Reports

By Contributing Writer John H. Rutherford, Duval County Sheriff

The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office has identified popular economic scams that are currently circulating online or targeting residents in the Jacksonville area. These economic crimes can take place in person, on the phone, or online. The key to not becoming a victim is to be aware of these popular scams; ask questions when solicited; and if victimized, report these activities to police at 630-0500—the 250 non-emergency number.

1. Pigeon Drop: This scam usually involves two suspects; one suspect will state they have and visually show the victim a large amount of cash and/or savings bonds. The second suspect will approach and add his opinion on what to do with the money. The suspects manipulate the victim into thinking that they will be able to split the money three ways if they can “secure” or “verify” the other cash and bonds. The suspects eventually collect all of the cash from the victim and leave the victim holding a bag of worthless paper. The elderly are usually targeted as victims and this generally occurs in parking lots.

2. Sweepstakes Scams: These scams involve a phone call usually from an out-of-country cell phone. The caller is always wise to use the contact information on the reverse side of the call, networks until you have re-verified that the check was legitimate. The scam involves a seemingly legitimate check being mailed to the victim, giving directions for secretly shopping for an item. The check will be for more than the item will cost. The victim will be instructed to deposit the check into their checking account and wire a set amount of money back to the company. Shortly after the victim deposits the check and wires the money, the victim’s bank will declare that the check is counterfeit and the victim is responsible for the full amount withdrawn from the account.

3. Secret Shopper Scam: This scam involves the victim looking for a “work from home” job. The victim will be told that they are working for a logistics company (or similar type). The victim is told that they will be paid monthly, usually a large amount and reimbursed for shipping supplies. The victim will be instructed to reship items that are delivered to victim’s address usually out of the country. The victim is told that they will not be paid until the end of the second month. The victim continues to reship the items anticipating the large paycheck that will never show up.

4. Reshipping Scam: This scam involves the victim looking for a “work from home” job. The victim will be told that they are working for a logistics company (or similar type). The victim is told that they will be paid monthly, usually a large amount and reimbursed for shipping supplies. The victim will be instructed to reship items that are delivered to victim’s address usually out of the country. The victim is told that they will not be paid until the end of the second month. The victim continues to reship the items anticipating the large paycheck that will never show up.

5. Craigslist/Classified Ad Scam: This scam involves the victim selling something via a classified ad. The victim will be contacted by an interested party. Usually the full asking price will be agreed upon and the purchaser will send a check to the seller. The check arrives and is for much more than the agreed upon price. The purchaser will re-contact the seller and state that it was a mistake, and will have the seller return the overage to the purchaser. The seller deposits the check and sends the average back to the purchaser, at which time the seller’s bank tells them the check is fraudulent. This can sometimes be days or weeks after the check has been deposited, even if the bank originally verified that the check was legitimate. The seller is now responsible for the total amount withdrawn from the account.

6. Grandson/granddaughter friend stuck overseas and needs money to get out of jail or pay for hospital bills calls grandma/grandpa to wire the money. Sometimes people receive what looks like an email from this person, making it more believable. If an email or caller says “please don’t call my parents, I don’t want to get in trouble/ worry them,” that is a red flag. Sometimes the email is generated because the person’s account was hacked or “phished” when a virus attacked their email contacts. When someone emails or calls you asking for money because they are in trouble, call them or a loved one and check out the story. With the enormous popularity of the various social networking sites, vacationers’ family members are being scammed because the criminal can see that the vacationer is legitimately out of the country. Limit who can see your status online and do not broadcast your vacation plans on these networks until you have returned home.

7. Do not give your bank account information or Social Security Number online, in response to an email. Banks do not ask for this information online in an email – and if they do, it is always wise to use the correct phone number and confirm that the institution or trusted source actually sent you the email or link.

8. ATM/Wafer/Gas Pump skimming: A small handheld device is used to scan your debit/credit card number. Then your credit card numbers are sent to a server located within the state of the country and used to make purchases. Check receipts carefully. Avoid using a debit card at all, but if you must, only use it to get money out of an ATM machine housed within your banking institution. If you must use an ATM that is not housed within your banking institution, grab the slot which accepts your debit card and try wiggling it. If it moves or seems loose it may be a skimming device. Legitimate ATM machines will not be loose at all. If a criminal gets hold of your money, it could be weeks before you have access to it while the bank investigates.

9. With the large amount of transactions we make online and via the use of codes on smart phones – with the purchases charged to a debit or credit card instantaneously, we remind people to go online and check their bank statements with greater frequency. The “once a month” review of a bank statement is a thing of the past, with the ability to review purchases/debits/credits online any time of day or night. We encourage people to do this. Use the “alerts” feature by your banking institution to be notified of activity on your account.

10. Do not keep your PINs or codes or “Security Question” Answers with your wallet or checkbook. If you are storing the private information like this in your mobile device (phone or tablet), make sure you have a passcode for the device and lock it when not in use. Adding layers of security, such as passcodes and logins (or rejecting automatic log-ins on computers) won’t stop you from being victimized, but it will make it harder for the criminal to access your personal information.

Other common scams:

• “Tech” scam: Caller says he works for Microsoft, as an example and he wants to notify you of a virus on your computer. He says he can help and within a few clicks of your mouse, he has access to your computer and all of its secret information. No one will ever legitimately call you to help you rid viruses on your computer.
As our office wraps up the final preparation for the November 6 General Election, I am encouraging Duval County voters to also be prepared for Election Day.

Voters are encouraged to check their voter registration information to ensure accuracy now and not wait until Election Day. If you have not voted since the last presidential election, please know that many delays and voter registration issues at the polls are an easy fix with just a phone call to the Elections Office 630-1414 or by visiting the website at DuvalElections.com prior to Election Day. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

I’m encouraging all voters to do one thing before November 6: research the ballot. For the first time all Duval County voters will be issued a four-page ballot which contains multiple races and 11 proposed amendments to the state Constitution. The amendments are extensive, over 3000 words and will require thorough consideration; therefore, I’m anticipating long lines and delays at the polls.

If you follow these helpful tips it will ensure you are ready for Election Day and minimize potential delays:

- Research the amendments.
- Although my office is governmental in nature, we strive to educate and provide resources to voters as a source of information with various links to websites like the Collins Center, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that provides information on the amendments.
- Consider voting by mail, which is available to all registered voters. Vote by Mail ballots allow voters to vote in their own time at their convenience and are easily requested through the website by calling the Elections Office. Voters must request a Vote by Mail ballot prior to October 31.
- Voters planning to vote early or on Election Day should mark their sample ballot and bring that sample ballot with them to the polling place or early voting site. Reading, researching and marking your sample ballot prior to walking into the polling place will save you time on Election Day. Sample ballots are also available on the website.
- When voting early or on Election Day, please remember to bring a photo and signature identification with you to the polls or you will be required to vote a provisional ballot. A list of acceptable forms of IDs are available online. Early voting is October 27 through November 3.
- With three opportunities to vote your voice, there is no reason to forget one of the greatest freedoms afforded to all Americans, the right to vote. Our office continues to convey the voice of the people by providing fair, accurate and accessible elections.

The case for umbrella insurance

By Contributing Writer Bob Ebersberger

Most responsible people understand they should purchase liability insurance on their home and automobile to protect them if they have an accident or make a mistake and injure someone or damage some other property.

Is it ever possible to underestimate the amount of liability insurance you need? Absolutely! Disasters happen all the time. Life is very unpredictable. The solution however is not difficult. Personal umbrella policies provide liability limits that are excess over your limits of liability on your homeowners and automobile policies. They are sold in increments of $1,000,000 and are not very expensive.

Here are three reasons to consider a purchase of a personal umbrella policy:

1. You can never predict how much an accident or mistake will cost. Consider serious accidents with permanent multiple injuries or fatalities—dog bites, pool accidents, inexperienced young driver errors occur every day. Business owners and people with large assets are targets of lawsuits.
2. With proper coverage you have one less thing to worry about. You can let the Umbrella Insurance Company defend you as the cost of legal defense is included in the policy limits.
3. Umbrella coverage is inexpensive and easy to buy. Pricing for $1,000,000 coverage begins at around $200 a year. You might be required to increase your auto liability limits to meet the Umbrella Underwriting Guidelines, but the extra cost is not going to kill you if and when you need the extra coverage.

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Personal Umbrellas do exactly what insurance is supposed to do: protect you from the unlikely yet possible catastrophic event.

Is your agent looking out for you? You might need more coverage.

For additional information, please contact varsity@fdn.com.

Your Voice, Your Vote

Happy Thanksgiving from:

Don Juan’s
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
Authentic Mexican Cuisine

NOW is the time to reserve space for your Holiday Party! Private room is available for large groups.

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Your Vote

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Janice Vincent (904) 923-8455
Specializes in color and highlights and women’s and men’s haircuts. 22 years experience.

Visit your endocrinologist just got easier.

Baptist Endocrinology has expanded its practice to the Mandarin area.

Melissa Morgan, MD and Stacey Kelly, ABNP-BC are delighted to welcome Leslie "Brandi" Salomone, MD to their practice. Both Dr. Morgan and Dr. Salomone are board-certified in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism.

Contact the practice for consultations regarding:

- Diabetes mellitus
- Adrenal and pituitary issues
- Thyroid disorders
- Osteoporosis/bone thinning
- Hypercalcemia (high blood calcium)
- Obesity
- Hypergonadism (low testosterone)

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904.260.9699

Conveniently located on San Jose Blvd., south of Loretto Road in the Conmarant Park Professional Center.
Meet your local candidates

In advance of the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, Mandarin NewsLine invited each of the candidates for Duval County School Board, Districts 3 and 7; County Court Judge, Group 12; Clerk of the Circuit Court; Florida State Senator, District 4; United States Representative, District 4; and Water and Soil Conservation District, Groups 1, 2 and 4 to submit a statement for this special election section.

The content of the statements was left up to each candidate; the only stipulation was that the statement could not exceed 250 words. No substantive editing of the statements took place. Each statement is printed in its entirety.

Suzanne Jenkins, Non-Partisan Candidate for Duval County School Board, District 3

Children are our future; educating them should be our first priority! I am a parent, small business owner, citizen activist and former City Council member who has a passion for public education. My husband and I graduated from Jacksonville’s public schools and raised eight children. My commitment to public education is clear: We’ve invested in our children. Now, I am asking you to let me invest in yours. I’ve led City Council committees, neighborhood associations, PTAs, School Advisory Councils and my own business. I work by creating effective relationships with people from all walks of life—and I never give up. Jacksonville’s economic growth and our children’s futures depend on what we do now to strengthen our neighborhood and magnet schools. My priorities will be to ramp up technology, maximize district efficiency, remove redundancy, tighten student discipline, support classroom teachers, preserve the arts and extracurricular activities and foster academic and career training opportunities in all of our schools. Now is the time for bold leadership to transform our schools! I am ready to take office and begin working with our new superintendent from day one. I have always been and will continue to be available and accountable to the Duval County taxpayers. You can elect a proven leader and former public servant who has the skill sets necessary to lead our school system to the next level and beyond.

Ashley Smith Juarez, Non-Partisan Candidate for Duval County School Board, District 3

I bring real world experience and a lifetime commitment to education. I am an educator and a small business owner. Meeting a budget, operating efficiently and building meaningful public-private partnerships are things I do every day. I know that students learn best when they know we need better policies for our schools. In my current role, I am working in education, in what’s not working and how we can improve. On day one, I will roll up my sleeves ready to do the tough work to get our schools on track.

Suzanne Jenkins, Non-Partisan Candidate for Duval County School Board, District 3

I will be a fresh, new voice for our schools. I believe that the cornerstone of community, and our schools are struggling. We have to do things differently. We need to be transparent about our challenges and we need policies and plans to support our students. As a school board member, I will listen to teachers and parents, and work hard to help build a world-class school system. I am a good listener and a bold leader to improve our schools. To learn more about me and my plan, please visit www.AshleySmithJuarez.com or email me directly at Ashley@JuarezforSchoolBoard.com.

I am Brenda Priestly Jackson, Judge, Group 12

I am a Mandarin resident and I love Jacksonville. This is where I was born and raised and I am proud to be able to raise my family here. I am a businesswoman, former Judge, Group 12. My career in the law began when I was just a young child. I had the opportunity to serve as a youth court judge, Court Judge, Group 12. There I supervised an entire division of judges. There I supervised the Division Chief at the Public Defender’s Office and tried over 45 jury trials. Since then, I have successfully operated my own legal practice and have gained experience in every area of the law, from family and injury and small claims law to criminal law. I have practiced law for 13 years in Jacksonville and established a diverse civil and criminal legal practice, serving the City’s Up and Coming Community Leaders. My husband Darin and I are raising our four-year-old son. As your county judge, I will listen with bias, treat all people fairly and make decisions grounded in the law and facts tempered with common sense. My campaign has been endorsed by many community leaders, including Sheriff Rutherford, because he and others know I have the strong legal back- ground, leadership skills, principles and commitment to service our city needs. I would appreciate your vote on November 6. Visit www.KailForJudge.com.
A brief summary of proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution

By J. Bruce Richardson

All Florida voters – regardless of party affiliation as well as independent voters – will vote on 11 proposed amendments to Florida’s constitution on November 6. The Florida Constitution is the supreme law of the state, which sets forth the basic rules and principles on which the state government is based. The voter-approved amendments would change the way the Florida Constitution is changed, increase the total number of taxes, increase the homestead property tax base and tax cap, increase the scope of state endeavor, allow for continued state taxing authority to be used for the purpose of direct state funding, and make other changes. All of the proposed amendments were written by the voters. The voters turned in 491 proposed amendments this time around. The Florida Constitution has been changed after a vote. In some instances, the constitution has been changed after the legislature has failed to act; in other instances citizen groups have determined a perceived need for change and used this process to seek a specific goal. Through the years there have been good and bad amendments and in addition to amendments being added, voters have also voted to strike down previous amendments. Here are the amendments on the general election ballot for 2012, along with a brief summary.

1) Health Care Services
A proposed amendment to provide for the establishment of a health care framework that would require everyone to have health insurance in some form or another or pay a penalty, regardless of party affiliation as well as independent voters.

2) Veterans Disabled Due to Injury
A proposed amendment to provide benefits to veterans who are disabled because of a service-connected injury to include those who were not Florida residents when they were honorably discharged from active military service.

3) State Government Revenue Limitation
A proposed amendment which replaces the existing state revenue limitation based on Florida personal income growth with a new state revenue limitation based on inflation and population changes.

4) Property Tax Limitations; Property Value: Decline; Reduction for Non-Homestead Assessments Increases; Delay of Schedules Repealed
A change in the Florida Constitution, which takes into account the many changes in home values (both up and down) in recent years and directs and protects homeowners from unfair taxation levels because of the fluctuation in home prices and assessments.

5) State Courts
This is a “housekeeping” amendment to the Florida Constitution which changes the way the rules followed by the Florida judicial system can be changed by the Florida legislature and relates to the Florida Supreme Court.

6) Prohibition on Public Funding of Abortions; Construction of Abortion Rights

Body President to Board of Governors of the State University System

A proposed amendment to replace the president of the Florida Student Association with the Florida Board of Governors of the State University student body presidents as the student member of the Florida Board of Governors of the State University student body presidents.

Many of the proposed amendments make it possible for the Florida legislature to enact legislation to carry out the intent of amendments which may be approved by the voters. This allows the legislature to create new laws, eliminate others and/or other required necessities of writing laws based on the concepts and directions as defined in the constitutional amendments. As an example, a 200 word amendment can easily blossom into a 2,000 word law by the time all requirements are met for enacting a new law.

Editor’s Note: Mandarin Newsline always recommends that voters be informed by conducting their own research. The following websites were recommended by Duval County Supervisor of Elections Jerry Holland for additional information:

- http://conrevflorida.org/
- www.MandarinNewsline.com
- www.DuvalFla.org

Jason Fischer for School Board District 7

John Winkler, No Party Affiliation Candidate for Clerk of the Circuit Court

John Winkler has been working and living in Jacksonville for over 30 years. Valedictorian of his high school, John went to Princeton on scholarship. John has a law degree from the University of North Carolina and an advanced degree in tax law from Florida State University. John has shared the public’s growing frustration with the Clerk’s office over that time and uncovered problems when he ran for Clark in 2008 that still remain. In 2010, John ran for and won the 173,000 voters who supported reform. He wins with a strong stand against regressive cities going bankrupt. Our own City Council members have hinted at dire consequences if we are unable to continue balancing our already tight city budget. The current Clerk has cooperated in reducing his budget, but treated taxpayer funds as a personal war chest. Unlike his opponents, who promise more candidates’ statements cont. on pg. 18
Hospital stands alone in Jacksonville

Once again, Memorial Hospital is the only Jacksonville hospital to be named a Top Performer in Key Quality Measures by the Joint Commission. This is the second year in a row Memorial earned this important distinction, something achieved by fewer than 8 percent of hospitals nationwide.

Memorial was recognized for its performance in the following categories: Heart Attack, Heart Failure, Pneumonia and Surgical Care. That’s a great achievement,” said Memorial Hospital President and CEO James O’Loughlin. “Our entire team is dedicated to patient safety and this recognition shows that we are a national leader in improving patient outcomes.

Only 18 percent of hospitals in the country were named a Top Performer in Key Quality Measures. The list was included in the recently released “Improving America’s Hospitals: The Joint Commission Annual Report on Quality and Safety,” published this year.

“Making the Top Performers list is no easy feat. I salute these organizations for the hard work in attaining excellence. By consistently using evidence-based treatments and patient-centred care, we are getting better hospital care,” said Mark R. Chassin, M.D., President, The Joint Commission.

This is the latest in a series of independent evaluations that have been Memorial Hospital’s positive marks for patient safety. Consumer Reports ranked Memorial the highest among hospitals in Florida in the 2011 “Consumer Reports On Health” Annual Guide. The report placed Memorial in the top 10 percent of the nation’s hospitals.

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Welcome to new director at Mandarin Museum and Historical Society

The Mandarin Museum and Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has engaged the professional services of Mandarin resident and archaeologist Antoni Paris, Ph.D. PBA, Dr. Paris will serve as executive director.

Dr. Paris describes the role of a museum director as having an endowment of resources and responsibilities. The director is the leader of the organization, the architect of the program and the steward of the museum’s future. The director is a HR manager, bookkeeper, designer, fundraiser, and writer. The director is a professional, not a volunteer. The director is the leader of the organization, the architect of the program and the steward of the museum’s future.

Dr. Paris is currently an Assistant Professor of Archaeology at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He has conducted archaeological research in Ecuador, Peru, and the Caribbean. He is a consultant to the National Park Service and has worked on several archaeological projects in the United States. He is a member of the Society for American Archaeology and the Society for Historical Archaeology. He has published numerous articles and book chapters on prehistoric and historic archaeology.

The Mandarin Museum and Historical Society is an educational and cultural organization that promotes the study of history and archaeology. The museum’s collection includes artifacts from the prehistoric and historic periods, as well as documents and photographs. The museum also offers educational programs and events for all ages. The museum is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information, please visit www.mandarinmuseum.com or call 904.396.1701.
Many women are unaware of the threat to themselves of heart disease. You may think that since you do not have a family history or you aren’t in bad health then there is no reason for concern.

Did you know that heart disease begins in teenagers and progresses over time? It is never too early to begin healthy habits that will protect you from damag- ing the most vital organ in your body – your heart. With the death rate from heart disease increasing amongst women over the age of 55, it is evident that the risk of a heart attack increases greatly after menopause. However, heart disease affects women of all ages and the health decisions that women make in their teens and early adulthood will impact their future heart health.

It is important to take preventative measures when it comes to your heart health. Baptist HeartWise for Women has partnered with Northeast Florida Quit and offers an innovative program for the women of North Florida. HeartWise is a prevention pro- gram that addresses the unique cardiovascular needs of women of all ages. HeartWise connects women with the medical services, information and resources needed to maintain a heart-healthy life- style.

Pamela Rama, MD, is a card- iologist and the medical director for Baptist HeartWise for Women. She gives tips on how to reduce your risk for developing heart disease:

- Be aware of your personal risk factors.
- Know the symptoms of a heart attack that are specific to women.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle, including healthy eating and exercise as a part of your daily regimen.

There are several risk fac- tors for heart disease that are controllable. Reduce or eliminate these risk factors and you are on track to a heart-healthy lifestyle: Smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and triglycerides, lack of exercise, excess weight, poor diet, diabetes, heavy drinking and stress.

Implementing heart-healthy habits can reduce your lifetime risk of developing heart disease by as much as 92 percent, better than any medications physicians may typically prescribe,” said Dr. Rama.

Research conducted over the past ten years has shown that heart disease behaves differently in women than it does in men. Women tend to experience less common symptoms of a heart attack than men do, causing them to delay treatment. Women also have more risk factors than men do. For example, women are at a higher risk of developing heart disease based on problems that may have occurred during a preg- nancy.

Heart disease claims more women’s lives each year than the next seven causes of death com- bined, and nearly as many as all forms of cancer combined. One in three women will die each year from cardiovascular disease. The sooner a woman practices a heart-healthy lifestyle, the less likely she is to develop heart disease will decrease.

Call 904.202.KNOW (5669) to schedule a one hour comprehen- sive screening and evaluation of your personal risk factors and learn how to better manage your personal health and heart disease. You can also sign up for a HeartWise for Women Eating Plan class and a Healthy Fitness Assessment. Be sure to look for their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!

HeartWise for Women – Educating women of North Florida on heart health

Homecoming parade cont. from pg. 1

Marine Biology float that won, bearing a big shark going after a little fish with a sign that said "Hawks, the other white meat." Second place went to AVID and the cheerleaders came in third place.

There was so much excite- ment on Greenland Road on pa- rade day. With family members, residents, teachers and students all in attendance, it seemed like a community reunion to most.

There were people who were pecking over their fence, sitting in lawn chairs and there were even some people who drove by and were able to enjoy the whole parade. Even the students from Greenland Pines Elemen- tary School lined the streets to enjoy the newest phenomenon.

The whole high school student body was really the most pumped, though. Between the students and teachers who were in the parade and the ones who were just watching, there was definitely a special kind of energy on Greenland Road that Friday.

Doug Stovall, the PTSA’s president who was responsible for organizing the parade, sent out an email telling all of the participants how proud he was of how the parade went.

"Hey Everyone, I just wanted to tell all who participated or showed up and supported our students and school, thank you! I can’t begin to tell you how proud I was to be a Mustang and the way we represented our school. Great job!!!!!!” read Stovall’s email.

Stovall wasn’t the only one who was proud to be a Mus- tangs and participate in; seemed to be the whole community. Thank you from MHS to everyone who came out to support that day and always remember, Go Mustangs!"
Give the gift of joy this holiday season

By Contributing Writer Dajana Mihaljevic, Hubbard House Intern

Each year, your generosity means happiness for hundreds of families who are experiencing violence in their homes. For children who have been affected by domestic violence, holiday joy is often more of a wish than a reality. Hubbard House shelters over 1,000 women, children and men annually. Victims and their children are provided with safe refuge, support and services that address their crucial needs in the midst of crisis. For the time they stay in the shelter, Hubbard House becomes their home.

You can help create special memories for a family this holiday season. Hubbard House offers a variety of holiday donation opportunities for you or your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis.

Holiday Food Drive, November 1 – December 31: Emergency shelter provides groceries to over 80 families to be able to prepare three meals daily, plus snacks. Unfortunately, due to the current economy and budget cuts, Hubbard House has seen a significant decline in food donations. Please help us keep the Hubbard House pantry stocked with your donations of non-perishable food items.

Thanksgiving Baskets, November 13 – 16: With your help, Hubbard House provides families with Thanksgiving food baskets that include turkeys (via gift cards) and all the fixings associated with this great American tradition.

Holiday Toy Store, November 26 – December 21: Each year, Hubbard House sets up a temporary toy store which allows families to shop for their children with holiday toy donations. Through generous donations from the community, parents living in shelter or those who have recently left are given the opportunity to pick out gifts for their children.

Holiday Adopt-A-Family, December 10 – 14: With your generosity, up to 40 families from Hubbard House can have their holiday wishes fulfilled. Donors contribute gifts for an entire family. Hubbard House provides a specific family profile detailing family members’ needs, wants and toy requests. We recommend this option for our business partners due to the higher cost of shopping for a family. It is estimated that it will cost approximately $75 to $100 per person in the family. (Donations of wrapping paper, tape and bows are appreciated as well.)

If you are interested in helping involved by sharing holiday joy through any of our holiday programs please contact Hubbard House hotline at 354-3114 or (800) 500-1119. Hubbard House hotline at 354-3114 or 888.730.4345. Hubbard House has a website for you or you can visit www.hubbardhouse.org/help/donate. Your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis your organization to help make the holidays brighter for families in crisis.
Mandarin women share collectible treasures

By Contributing Writer Marilyn Clark, Mandarin Women’s Club

Mandarin women share collectible treasures

By Contributing Writer Master Gardener Lesley Arrandale with Duval County

Gardening: Plants for the birds

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

Autumn is the ideal planting season, so why not choose plants that encourage birds into your yard? As well as providing berries and seeds, certain plants have an associated insect population which encourages insect-eating migrants in both spring and fall to visit. And this benefits anyone who grows vegetables!

Pete Johnson, president of the local Audubon Society (www.duvalaudubon.org), advises that rose-breasted grosbeaks and indigo buntings, but this is a tree for larger yards and where fruit-drop won’t be an issue. Incidentally, as long as the fruits are fully ripe, they are edible. Also for larger yards, a southern live oak (Quercus virginiana) hosts insects in its canopy which encourages migrating warblers. There is an upright cultivar, highrise, which grows about 15 feet. Shrubs like Florida privet (Forestiera segregata) can be trained as a hedge or left as a more natural large shrub, as can Walter’s viburnum (Viburnum op- ovatum). Both produce attractive flowers and berries. For ground cover, try purple mulshy grass (Muhlenbergia capillaris), with beautiful purple plumes. Native parenials like purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea) provide useful seed, so enjoy the flowers and dead-head if you prefer, but leave the late-season seed heads for visitors like the goldfinch.

President of the local ixia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (ixia.fnpschapters. org), Barbara Jackson, grows beautyberry (Callicarpa americana), which mocksongbirds love, Simpson’s stopper (Myrcianthes fruticans), yaupon holly (Ilex vomitoria) and firebush (Hamelia patens), which is a hummingbird magnet. Blackberries are a good fruit source too, but keeping them weed-free can be difficult.

An effective strategy is to divide your planting to resemble a woodland edge. Plants naturally are lower right at the edge or in the foreground in your yard and step up to canopy height in the true woodland. At the very least, try to get up to a good height with shrubs and small trees such as the yaupon, which will afford birds the shelter they need. If your immediate neighbor has a mature tree, use this part of the woodland you’re trying to mimic. And of course, provide a water source with shallow access that birds can use easily.

Much more information can be found at the Audubon and FNPS websites, please check them out. This article, too, is invaluable: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ uw175.
Wisconsin’s Elkhart Lake believes in old-time holidays
By Contributing Travel Writer Debi Lander, www.bylandersea.com

Why visit Wisconsin in the winter? I asked myself that question when I was invited to the Town of Elkhart Lake last December. I imagined twinkling lights shimmering on snowy streets, roaring fires, hot toddies and sleigh rides. I was happy to learn that the one-hour drive to Elkhart Lake home and the immense facility runs 425 events each year including major summer motorsport races like NASCAR and LeMans.

But the Osthoff Resort, originally built in 1865 and restored in 1995, looked and felt like a Currier and Ives Christmas card come to life. The AAA four-Diamond lodge near the lake includes oversized rooms (my closet was big enough for a baby’s nursery), an incredible cooking school, world renowned spa and bountiful classic live holiday decorations. You’ll find nothing plastic or artificial; every green bough and wreath are hand-carved wood. Sweaters are one-of-a-kind hand-blown glass or hand-painted globes. Nutcrackers and nativity sets are one-of-a-kind hand-blown from Czech Republic and Scandinavia foreign vendors from Italy, Germany, France, the Czech Republic and Scandinavia. There were hand-knit and personalized scarves. Men smell divine. The market is hand-knit and personalized scarves. Men smell divine. The market had a staring role in the Euro style Christmas Market held on the Osthoff grounds. The heated tent-enclosed market insures a comfortable climate for shopping and dining on international specialties: sauerbraten, wiener schnitzel, cooked red cabbage and German beer. The Old World Market stands brim with crafts and foreign vendors from Italy, Germany, France, the Czech Republic and Scandinavia. There are hand-knit and personalized scarves. Men smell divine. The market had a staring role in the Euro style Christmas Market held on the Osthoff grounds. The heated tent-enclosed market insures a comfortable climate for shopping and dining on international specialties: sauerbraten, wiener schnitzel, cooked red cabbage and German beer.

For more information on these and other scheduled events, you can call 256-7677. For information on the CFA Soiree and other special programs to celebrate 50 wonderful years, you can visit http://cfasoiree.ju.edu.

Elkhart Lake recalling that Paul Newman made it famous as a road-racing destination, Nowadays Road America calls Elkhart Lake home and the immense facility runs 425 events each year including major summer motorsport races like NASCAR and LeMans.

But the Osthoff Resort, originally built in 1865 and restored in 1995, looked and felt like a Currier and Ives Christ-
Farmers market announces new vendors

Fresh Start Hydroponics brings to market “cut your own” living kale, Swiss chard and other leafy greens. Local producers KTV Farm and Natural Springs Dairy are also now bringing their first fall crops to market. New vendor, Pasta Fresca, brings a variety of fresh herb and vegetable pastas. Allocco, local produce and plant vendors, continues the Alpine Groves October Pumpkin Patch.

October’s Snap the Park, a monthly photo contest, has begun; all are invited to submit up to five photos per month of the farmers market and/or Alpine Groves Park to snapthepark@gmail.com. The St. Johns River Farmers Market is seeking volunteers to assist with activities of all kinds for children, parking and market maintenance. Please email St.JohnsRiverFarmersMarket@gmail.com.

“Jersey retirement cont. from pg. 1

...he allowed a career low of two sacks. In his senior year he moved to left guard helping the Cardinals once again rank in the top 10 in scoring, third in pass efficiency and third in scoring. That year he allowed a career low of two sacks.

...to a Super Bowl champion. He now is with the Jacksonville Jaguars, which is another first, making him the first Mandarin Middle School player to play for the Jaguars. However, possibly his biggest first is that he is the first MMS Hawk to have his jersey number 66 retired by the school, never to be used again. Currently on injured reserve with the Jaguars, he wheeled his injured left leg onto the Mandarin Middle School football field. There, accompanied by his wife and proud parents, he received his actual jersey from 1996. It was presented by his line coach from 1996 who said, “I am very proud of the success Jason has had in football. He will always be a Mandarin Middle Hawk.”

We surely welcome home a native son and celebrate with him his successes and look forward to bringing his football prowess back to the First Coast and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Marinela M. Nemetz, D.D.S., Board Certified Pediatric Dentist
Robert J. Nemetz, D.D.S., M.S., Adult Dentistry • Periodontics • Prosthodontics

MHS presents Fame the Musical!

“Fame” is the show that Mandarin High Musical Theater will be performing this year. This show promises to be great entertainment for young and old. The performances are Thursday, November 15, Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. each evening. For the first time, they will have a 1:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday, November 17, with doors opening at 12:30 p.m. The price of tickets is $7.

The cast and crew are made up of very talented students from seasoned seniors to some great new freshman. The students are led by the Choral Director Jennifer Brown. This is Brown’s third year at MHS. She comes to Jacksonville from Buffalo, New York, where she performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus for three years and taught one year. She received her bachelor’s degree from the Crane School of Music, in upstate New York. Brown also has a Master’s degree in Choral Conducting that she completed at Florida State University.

She has performed and studied choral music abroad in London and Beijing, China. She teaches AP music theory and music appreciation. She directs women’s choral, chamber choir, concert choir, SSA and is the club sponsor for the gospel choir. Her previous musicals at MHS include Once Upon a Mattress and Annie. She is thrilled to be able to bring Fame as her third production!

Mandarin High School is excited to have such talented women on their teaching staff. Please come join us one of the nights or at the Matinee to see this wonderful production of Fame the Musical!
Movie Review
The Odd Life of Timothy Green

Directed by: Peter Hedges. Starring: Jennifer Garner, Joel Edgerton and CJ Adams. Review by T.G. Stanton

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

This month’s movie review belongs to the film The Odd Life of Timothy Green, a comedy, fantasy and drama film for kids to any age.

A small town couple, Cindy and Jim Green, portrayed by Jennifer Garner and Joel Edgerton, have been dreaming of having a child. They write down all the qualities of the child of their dreams and bury the box. A small boy are apparent. Through changing seasons, a small town leaders, the effects of one small boy are apparent. Through his actions, he endears himself to all and acquaintances of Cindy and Jim Green. An outcast in many ways, he endears himself to all who meet him.

In addition, Cindy and Jim learn what it means to not only be parents of an exceptional child, but that making mistakes are ways to learn and live more every day. From grandfathers to town leaders, the effects of one small boy are apparent. Through his actions, he endears himself to all and acquaintances of Cindy and Jim Green. An outcast in many ways, he endears himself to all who meet him.

In the end, the family, friends and neighbors are entertained and wanting to know what would happen next. The location and scenery played well into the inspiration and imagery.

Juliington Creek celebrates the opening of Emergency Care Center

Juliington Creek, just over the bridge in NW St. Johns County, now has a 24/7 hospital emergency room and neighbors came out to celebrate. Nearly 700 people came to a block party at the new Memorial ER. There were games, free food, health screenings, tours and even a visit from Jackson de Ville.

“We want to say thank you to the community for being so welcoming,” said Memorial Hospital President and Chief Executive Officer Jim O’Loughlin. “We look forward not only to providing quality emergency care, but also being a real active member of this community.”

The Memorial Emergency Care Center Juliington Creek is a full-service hospital ER, which makes it different from an Urgent Care Center. It’s staffed 24/7 by emergency room physicians, has a dedicated pediatrics area and is fully licensed by the state of Florida. “We want the community to know we are here to take care of their emergency healthcare needs,” said O’Loughlin.

The new ER opened on Oct 29.

Jewish war veterans announce Holocaust stamp project

The Jewish War Veteran Post #273 has expanded its stamp program with a new dimension. For over 40 years the Post has been distributing postage stamps to more than 100 veterans’ medical facilities, schools and youth groups. Marty Kaufman, stamp chairman, has expanded the program to include the Boston JG, Grandchildren of Holocaust Survivors, located in Brookline, Massachusetts. The Boston JG group has a goal of collecting 11 million stamps, which will represent those lost during the Holocaust.

To date one million stamps have been collected and sent to the Fuchs Regional Charter School for their Holocaust stamp project.

The students at the charter school are creating beautiful collages. Each collage will symbolize a piece of history during the time of the Holocaust and will be used as a learning tool throughout the Brookline school system.

For more information or to donate stamps, please contact Marty Kaufman at 880-4014.
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will host their annual Fall Festival on Friday, November 2 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. There will be a hog roast, carnival games, cake-walk, bounce houses, dunking booth and more. There will be a concert by the Northeast Florida Conservatory of Music at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets for the hog roast are $10 for adults, $5 for children ages four to 12 and free for children under four. The games and bounce houses will be done by wristband, which will cost $2 per child with a maximum of $20 for a family. Tickets are available through the church office; please call 262-1662. All proceeds from this event help support the ongoing ministries of First Christian Church.

Mandarin United Methodist Church is hosting a Free Sale on Saturday, November 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the church, located at 11270 San Jose Boulevard. Just show up!

San Juan Del Rio Catholic Church will hold its sixth annual Fall Festival on November 2, 3 and 4, 2012. The whole family is invited to enjoy rides, games, silent auction, jail and bail, country store, Café San Juan, book nook, food/refreshments, reverse draw, dinner Saturday night, Bingo, all ages talent show contest, free entertainment all three days, a homemade soup contest and our Grand Draw and raffle with over $10,000 in prizes. The Grand Draw top prize is a cruise to Bermuda with a value of $4,000 and is limited to the first 500 entries. The cost is $50 per ticket. For additional information, please contact Sal Santapola at saldesanta@gmail.com or 287-1380.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversations about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. Upcoming topics are: Wednesday, October 31: Same Sex Marriage; Wednesday, November 7: Smile, Even When Things Are Hard; Wednesday, November 14: Wounded Warriors: When War Comes Home; Wednesday, November 21: Preparing for the Worst; Saturday, November 24: The Mystery of Prayer; Can God Be Swayed? Find out more about this registration from the www.MandarinNewsLine.com calendar entry or call George Tirman at 717-0141. Admission is free. Check us out at www.LTchopeJAX.com.

Upward Basketball reg- istration at Mandarin United Methodist Church is now available for children ages three to 14. Skills development, basketball and cheerleading are available for ages three through eighth grade and twirling to first grade and up. Evaluations and uniform sizing will be held on November 5, 6, and 8 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Practices begin January 3, 2013 and the first game is January 12, 2013. For questions, please contact Mike Groves at 318-1782.

Maze close to home? Here’s your place!... GTMERRA: Guana State Park has several entrances. We love the beach for quiet walks in the woods, spotting birds and looking for animal tracks. The Guana River Dam at the West entrance, is great because you can hike through multiple habitats in one trip. Look on the trees for red lichen and take a deep breath there. Lichen is an indicator of clean air! The beach: Now that the summer tourists are home, we often have the beach to ourselves! I love walking on the beach on a cool, windy day. Even when it becomes too cold to swim, the crunch of sand beneath my toes and accompanying crash of waves is soothing to my soul.

Purposeful Parenting “Fall is in the air” By Allie Olsen

I love fall! Every year, I can’t wait to hang the grape- vine wreath with bittersweet and sunflowers and dress up the table with pumpkins and gourds. The house’s aroma is of cinna- mon and spice as I make apple butter, bake dinner in a pumpkin and spice as I make apple butter, bake dinner in a pumpkin... actually, we just ended our apple picking adventure. I had plans for months to go to Dis- ney, I planned our apple pick- ing trip to Ohio and picked apples rather quickly! Yet, I love the papery rustle as we run through the soccer fields I am hop- ing for wide open fields with wind whispering through wild grasses. Getting lost in a corn maze isn’t so great, but the dry papery rustle as we run through is memorable as is the laughter of my children, careless of being lost and confident in their ability to find their way out. I love the sounds of fall.

Last fall our family took a trip to Ohio and picked apples off the trees. The first time I’d seen apples hang- ing from a tree! Some people plan for months to go to Dis- ney; I planned my apple pick- ing adventure. I had plans for apple pies, apple butter, candied apples... actually, we just ended up eating them all! Turns out even the juiciest, ripest apples rather quickly!

Just like those pounds and pounds of apples we picked, time with my kiddos goes by quickly. If you need to slow down this fall, beat this time and enjoy your family, check out these local favorites of ours:... Sykes and Cooper Farms in Elkton: Looking for a Corn

ST. JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Reconciliation Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Weekend Mass Schedule Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon Hispanic Mass Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Historic Church Polish Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday - 10:00 a.m. - Historic Church Traditional Latin Mass Sunday - 11:15 a.m. - Historic Church Weekday Mass Schedule Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 5:00 p.m. Friday - 8:15 a.m. Main Church 11730 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 904-268-5422

David Levin. For questions and reservations, please call 881- 8877 or email kerrith@member- ship@gmail.com.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of International Christ- rian relief agency Samaritan’s Purse, will be collecting gift- filled shoe boxes for boys and girls during National Collection week from November 12 through 19. These boxes reach hurting children across the globe. As a shoe box recipient from a Rus- sian orphanage recently shared while visiting NE Florida, “The shoe box brought me hope, love and worth.” Mandarin residents can drop off at Crown Pointe Baptist Church, 904-219-8319, or Fruto Cove Baptist Church is a drop- off location. Please visit the website at www.samaritanspurse. org/occ for packing ideas and drop-off times.

Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home 11801 San Jose Blvd • Jacksonville, FL 32233

904-288-0025

www.hardagegiddens.com

Dignity

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Aaron Bean, Republican Candi-
date for Florida State Sen-
ate, District 4

I am Aaron Bean and I am running for Florida Sen-
ate District 4. If elected, I will bring Florida a strong, re-
liable leadership that is focused on creating jobs, helping our small businesses and pro-
families. Education. As a small business owner who grew in up in Northeast Florida, I have an understanding of the con-
cerns of our residents and businesses and how we can work togeth-
er, especially when times are tough. During my term in the Florida
Senate, I have been proactive and diligent in my efforts to work together.

For Florida to grow and remain as a leader in the world, we need to
work together to provide a future for our children. I am proud to
vote for education and I will continue to support our educators.

Aaron Bean, Florida Depart-
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bills that are driving the debt higher at the rate of 100 billion dollars a month. Right now, we borrow 45 cents for every dollar Washington spends. That is not sustainable. It must stop. And, Ander’s response to the debt problem has been to raise the debt ceiling to allow for the increased spending.

In his 11 years in Congress he has voted to increase the debt ceiling six times, most recently last August when he voted for the 2.4 trillion dollar increase package. He voted to give Wall Street bankers a $700 billion bailout. (The list goes on and on.) Unfortunately, Ander has been aiding and abetting the out-of-control spending. He is part of the problem. It’s time for Ander to go. For more information about Jim’s background and views, go to www.klauder4congress.com.

Gary Koniz, Write In Candidate for United States Representative, District 4

I am a Write-In Candidate running on a public platform to represent Florida’s 4th District U.S. House of Representatives in the 2012 Election. I need everyone’s help to get the word out about my Write-In Campaign by networking my platform and Write-In status to as many eligible voters as you can reach, to do the same to accomplish a “hands on” approach to sound government management “together,” for an intensive national employment program – with quality education as a mandate priority and with a stem anti-drug pol- icy as the keys to our salvation for the people who are suffering here of our presently beleaguered nation. I have 40 years of career experience in investigative jour- nalism covering the important social, business, and political events of our times and to a long range continuity of focus in this field. My contacts and important contacts on the national and local levels to be able to handle the issues crises as they arise to be resolved. My primary focus in urgency at the present time is on reporting the U.S. economy, stressing the importance of man- dating for fair appropriate middle class wages, a fair price cost of living index regulation, an af- fordable graduated IRS payroll deduction national health care plan and for full faith fiat bantam to finance government services etc. which will generate the needed consumer purchasing power necessary for economic growth. We have accomplished much in our history and still have much left to accomplish including our need of becoming more “People Focused” in organization.

Sebastian Alexander, Non-Par- tisan Candidate for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 1

I am originally from New Or- leans, Louisiana, but have since made Jacksonville my home. My father worked at the New Orleans Sewage and Water Board for 27 years, providing safe drinking water and eliminating health hazards for New Orleans resi- dents. As a result, I grew up with a knowledge and a concern for our natural resources. As an adult, I had the unique opportunity to work beside by father on the New Orleans Sewage and Wa- ter Board. I have worked in the automotive industry for the past 10 years, I am currently pursuing a master’s degree in accounting from Post University. Considering my personal ties to New Orleans and the catastrophic damage Katrina on the soil, land and other resources, my passion for the value and availability of safe environmental resources for all citizens is inescapable. It is im- portant to me that we work together to protect our health and environment by eliminat- ing exposure to health hazards. It is my desire that through my service to the Duval County com- munity, I can continue to provide exposure to the efforts currently in place, as well as, imple- ment additional efforts that are needed to ensure that we protect, improve and manage the best use of our natural resources, soil and water. In my free time, I enjoy working on the safety and wellbeing of our children and community.

Keith Gouch, Jr., Non-Partisan Candidate for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 1

If elected, I plan to have student development and get hazardous chemi- cals removed from our drinking water. Vote Keith Gouch for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 1. Visit my website at www.KeithGouch.com and learn more about my objectives for the safety and wellbeing of our children and community.

Alexander Pantanakis, Non-Par- tisan Candidate for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 1

I am proud to say that I have lived in Jacksonville my whole life. I know how amazing our current and I am certain that with the right leadership we can work together to make it better. Jacksonville is a treasure and is our job to keep it that way. I am sure that I can make a differ- ence and be a strong voice of our community on the Soil and Water Conservation District and Economic Development District. I hope you will support me in my efforts to make Jacksonville the city we want it to be.

Karolina P. Monroe, Write In Candidate for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 1

I am a parent and concerned about the safety and wellbeing of our children and community. I have lived in Jacksonville my whole life. I know how amazing our current schools and I am certain that with the right leadership we can work together to make it better. Jacksonville is a treasure and is our job to keep it that way. I am sure that I can make a differ- ence and be a strong voice of our community on the Soil and Water Conservation District and Economic Development District. I hope you will support me in my efforts to make Jacksonville the city we want it to be.

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November is Diabetic Eye Disease Month

Diabetes is the leading cause of legal blindness in this country for people under age 65 and is the second leading cause of legal blindness in this country for people over age 65.

November is Diabetic Eye Disease Month and Russell Pecoraro, MD, ophthalmologist at Clay Eye Physicians and Surgeons, specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetic retinopathy. Clay Eye has the latest diagnostic, medical and surgical technology for taking care of this disease.

Dr. Pecoraro states, “Diabetes is the leading cause of macular degeneration and cataract surgery, medical retina, diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration dominate my practice and are prevalent in North Florida. If you have diabetes, it’s important that you be proactive with your vision health. This is important even if there are no vision issues. Make it a priority to control your blood sugar levels and schedule an annual dilated retinal examination.”

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. In addition, they offer routine eye exams, contact lenses and boutique eyewear for the entire family.

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin News-Line.

Jane Moore, LMT # 0023441)

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Pediatric Associates of Jultington Creek, PA
Offering care for Infants, Children & Adolescents
Mary Ann Garcia, M.D., FAAP
Victor Luz, M.D., FAAP
Board Certified

Local Sports Scene
College basketball season gets underway
By Chad Cuppin

The first regular season game for the University of Florida men’s basketball team will take place aboard the USS Bataan which will be docked at Naval Station Mayport. On Friday, November 9, the Gators will play the Georgetown Hoyas at 9:00 p.m. in the Navy-Marine Corps Classic.

The only other time that a college basketball game has been played on an aircraft carrier was last year in San Diego when North Carolina played Maryland Beal left for the NBA where he was the third overall pick by the Washington Wizards.

Florida State won the ACC Tournament last season, but they had to run in the NCAA Tournament to get to the final four. Terrence Shannon and Okaro White are among the other key contributors who are back. The Seminoles begin their season at home against South Alabama on November 9. They’ll also host UNF on November 21.

Speaking of the Ospreys, they host exhibition games vs. Flagler on November 1 and Edward Waters on November 10. The first regular season game is at Memphis on November 12.

JU begins its season at Georgia on November 9. The Dolphins’ first home game is November 13 against Trinity Baptist at Veterans Memorial Arena. The November schedule also includes a trip to Miami on November 16 and two games in Mexico on November 24 and 25.

Families save years of time with new braces
If you’re like many adults who have had orthodontics or braces in your youth, you know that it traditionally has been a very time consuming process. While yearbook photos were a very time consuming process. While you may have moved in the past, state records now available that were dreamed about! Fastbraces®, a state of the art treatment. Its unique triangular brackets and single wire design can cut treatment time down significantly... in many cases; Fastbraces® treatment takes just half the time that traditional braces do! Fastbraces® is great for adults and children.

“One of our patients comes first,” says Dr. Alan Krantz, “so when we found a safe, faster and more affordable method to deliver orthodontic treatment to our community, I knew we had to go for it!”

Please see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!
Do you play shuffleboard?

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 9-30 a.m. at Mandarin Park (south end of Mandarin Road) next to the tennis courts at the park entrance. Beginners are always welcome. Interested folks are invited to just show up, unless it rains. Pictured are some participants of the Tuesday morning shuffleboard group.

Mandarin Garden Club’s Yard of the Month

Butterfly garden amazes and entertains

By Contributing Writer Susan Westermann, Mandarin Garden Club

A Julington Creek Road neighborhood is aflutter because of Pam and Paul Moran’s butterfly garden. After moving into their home in March, Pam Moran got busy constructing a 10x10 red brick butterfly outline design in their side yard. Moran smartly planted inside the butterfly outline just the right plants that different butterflies love. Like the line from the Kevin Costner baseball movie “If you build it they will come.” So goes it with the butterflies. If you plant it, the butterflies will come.

Moran planted milkweed, salvia, coneflower, coreopsis, porterweed and pensacas—and boy oh boy, the butterflies have come and have stayed. Moran describes her butterfly habitat as easy to maintain with her very busy schedule because it’s not too big. That is a lesson for all who are planning any kind of new gardening project. The Morans welcome their neighbors and friends to enjoy watching the many colorful monarchs, gulf fritillaries, sulphurs, swallowtails and skippers. One gentleman from down the street visits the Morans’ yard for inspiration for his painting hobby. The little girl next door proudly reports to her parents when some of their butterflies visit the little girl in her yard. The Mandarin Garden Club is proud to honor Pam and Paul Moran for creating an absolutely picture perfect butterfly garden. We should all be so lucky to have neighbors like the Morans.

For information or to nominate a neighbor for the Mandarin Garden Club’s Yard of the Month, please contact mandarimgardenclub@comcast.net or call 268-1192.

Call the Water Treatment Company Jacksonville has trusted for over 20 years.

“Concerns about your drinking water?”

Straight answers No high pressure.

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Visit our website: www.MandarinNewsLine.com

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Jaguars partnering with Boy Scouts to increase scouting opportunities in NE Florida

By Captain David Lifka

The outcome of a successful fishing trip often depends on decisions made prior to that trip. Deciding where to go, when to go, tackle to use and bait to use are all important decisions that are usually made in advance. Choosing the correct bait is probably the most important of those decisions and will have the greatest effect on your trip.

Dead, live and artificial baits are the three main categories of bait. Dead bait is any once living bait that has been frozen or freshly preserved. Live bait is a bait still alive and swimming and is probably the most productive of baits. Artificial baits are man-made baits such as plastic worms or lures designed to look like fish. Any of these baits can be productive when used under the right set of circumstances.

When choosing bait it is always best to match the bait to the water and type of fish being targeted. Many baits are seasonal and are more productive at certain times of the year. A quick phone call to a nearby bait store can usually answer your question to what's biting on what bait in the area you are planning to fish.

A successful day on the St. Johns River also depends on being able to choose the right bait. Dead, live or artificial can all be productive depending on the type of fishing you have planned.

Dead shrimp is probably the most commonly used bait on the St. Johns. It is a bait that can be used to target the largest variety of fish. When using dead shrimp try to use fresh locally caught shrimp only. Fish can often detect a difference in the shrimp you are offering and know whether or not they are foreign to the waters you are fishing. Other dead baits would include cut fish. Again the best bet is to use cut fish from the same body of water you are fishing.

Two of our more common species of fish in the St. Johns are the redfish and trout. Redfish can be targeted with crabs, shrimp and finger mullet. Both live baits found in the river are shrimp and finger mullet. Both must be caught with cast nets. Live shrimp and finger mullet can be fished a variety of ways. Float rigs, jig heads or live lined are all deadly ways to present these baits for trophy catches.

Artificial baits are usually trialled or casted along docks, pilings and bridges in the St. Johns. Commonly used artificial baits would be jig heads with grub tails or lures imitating mullet or bait fish.

Fishing Report: Reds, flounder and trout around docks and pilings from Orangedale to downtown Jacksonville. Weakfish at channel markers and holes. Cooler days means time to get the kids out to neighborhood ponds for bream.

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

North Florida Council hopes to raise $6.5 million.

Jack Sears, Jr., scout executive/CEO for the North Florida Council, said, “We are thrilled to partner with the Jaguars for this campaign. The Jaguars and the Scouts have had a great relationship, including the team’s sponsorship of the ScoutReach Sports Luncheon from 2009 through 2012 which has raised $4,000 to $60,000 annually in support of the Urban Scout Reach program.”

Sears added, “This new partnership takes us to the next level. The goal during this phase of the campaign is to raise $250,000 from our scouting families and friends. However, with the addition of the $100,000 Jaguars match, the total amount raised will now be $350,000.”

Brian Sexton, the “Voice of the Jaguars” game-day radio announcer since the team’s opening season, is the honorary chair of the grassroots campaign.

Sexton, himself an Eagle Scout and whose sons are also Boy Scouts, said, “I’m honored to help a cause that has meant so much to me and will have the greatest effect throughout my life and now I get to share that experience with my sons. This campaign will help ensure that many more youth can have the same Scouting opportunities that my family and I have.

For more information about the campaign, or to make a gift, please contact the North Florida Council at 388-0591 or tim.ford@scouting.org.
The Memorial Emergency Care Center at Julington Creek offers round-the-clock emergency care. Located on Race Track Road, this 12 bed, 11,000 square foot facility is a full-service ER with a dedicated pediatrics area. We can take care of all your family’s emergency medical needs.

HOSPITAL ER NOW OPEN 24/7

Heart Attack
Broken Bones
Stroke
Head Injuries
Burns
Asthma Attack
Chest Pain
Stitches
Broken Nose
Dislocated Shoulder
Everyday Emergencies
Accidental Injuries

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Medicare open enrollment is the one time each year to make changes to your insurance plan. During open enrollment, you can compare physicians, hospitals and benefits of other plans and switch to a plan that meets your personal health care needs.

Are you seeing the right doctor?

For expert medical care right in your own backyard, consider a University of Florida primary care physician.

The UF primary care network offers:

✔ More than 20 convenient clinic locations in Jacksonville and surrounding areas
✔ Easy appointment scheduling
✔ Expert physicians with access to all the resources of the region’s premier academic health center, UF&Shands Jacksonville
✔ Comprehensive health care services, from annual checkups and disease prevention to care for chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes

Important Information about Medicare Open Enrollment

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS DEC. 7, 2012

Medicare Advantage plans currently accepted by UF primary care centers:

WellCare HMO & Dual Eligible
1-888-888-9355
[TTY/TDD: 1-877-247-6272]

Florida Blue Medicare HMO & PPO
1-800-926-6565
[TTY/TDD: 1-800-955-8771]

Aetna Medicare HMO & PPO
1-800-832-2640
[TTY/TDD: 1-888-760-4748]

Traditional Medicare
1-800-633-4227
[TTY/TDD: 1-877-486-2048]

Humana Medicare PPO
1-800-372-2147 [TTY: 711]

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS DEC. 7, 2012
Happy Birthday to Bernice Porterfield

By Contributing Writer Rita Dower

Bernice Porterfield and Fr. John Tefow of San Juan Del Rio Catholic Church

On Saturday, October 6, the parishioners of San Juan Del Rio Catholic Church held a birthday party for Bernice A. Porterfield, who turned 100 years old on October 17, 2012. More than 100 people were in attendance to help her celebrate her upcoming birthday.

Porterfield was born and raised in Jacksonville. In a time when women did not go to college, in 1934, she graduated from Florida State College for Women which later became known as Florida State University.

She was married to Miller Porterfield and had three children—two sons and a daughter who died in 1980. She has six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Porterfield resides at Westminster Woods where she currently is a Sacristan for the Thursday weekly Catholic mass. She volunteers at Westminster as needed and belongs to a knitting group. She is still knitting hats and other items for our hospitals and also for Hospice.

When asked how she feels about turning 100 years old, she said, “I can’t believe it, I feel 1 1/2 that age!”

All who know Bernice Porterfield agree: she is one remarkable lady.

Don’t miss the sounds of the season!

and the glorious sounds of the season. It’s time to enjoy family and friends, engage in conversation and catch-up with everyone. Do not miss a word!

But, are you missing some words or conversations? Do you have to ask family and friends to repeat themselves? Do you sit quietly by yourself or have you stopped going to parties and family gatherings? Have you “dropped-out?”

If you answered “Yes” to only one of these questions, it is time to help your hearing. And you are not alone; nearly one of every five Americans has some kind of hearing loss. That’s 36 million people! But not everyone seeks help for their hearing.

The average wait before seeking help is seven to 10 years. Only one out of five people who could benefit from using a hearing aid wears one. Does this describe you?

Here’s how to change: Take the first step and get a hearing test from a qualified Doctor of Audiology, an audiologist. An audiologist is a professional with a college education. Doctors of Audiology have seven to eight years of higher education covering all aspects of the human ear’s anatomy, physics of sound, types of hearing loss, ear disease, the effects that loud noise and certain drugs have on the human auditory system, tinnitus – both cause and effects, hearing aid circuitry, amplification systems, assistive Listening systems, hearing aid t-coils, hearing aid blue-tooth systems and much more. Most importantly, they are skilled in how this information can be used to help improve your hearing and lifestyle.

The professionals at Dr. Rosann F. Faul, LLC, Audiology and Hearing Aids Services have the education and experience to get you started, beginning with a video examination of your ear canals; if there is any debris or wax present you will see! Then a diagnostic hearing test with a report will be sent to your physician. Finally if you need a hearing aid, there are several choices—more than one hearing aid manufacturer and many styles, including Receiver-In-Canal (RIC) and now Invisible-In-Canal (IIC). Digital hearing aids may be prescribed and fit for your hearing ability and lifestyle.

Make the important step to engage and enjoy the holiday season. Improve your hearing! Call 262-5550 and visit our website: www.drfaulllc.com.

Be sure to look for their ad in this issue of Senior NewsLine!

November is National Caregivers Month

In 1994, the National Family Caregivers Association began promoting the celebration of family caregivers during the week of Thanksgiving. President Clinton signed the first presidential proclamation in 1997 and every president since has issued an annual proclamation appreciating family caregivers. As caregivers grew in family caregiving issues, Caregivers Week became National Family Caregivers Month.

Day in and day out, more than 65 million family caregivers in this country fulfill a vital role on the care team. No one else is in a better position to ensure continuity of care. Family caregivers are the most familiar with their care recipients’ medicine regimen; they are the most knowledgeable about the treatment regimen; and they understand best the dietary and exercise regimen.

NFCA coordinates National Family Caregivers Month as a time to thank, support, educate and empower family caregivers. Celebrating Family Caregivers during NFC month enables all of us to:

• Raise awareness of family caregiver issues
• Celebrate the efforts of family caregivers
• Educate family caregivers about self-identification
• Increase support for family caregivers

For more information, please visit http://thefamilycaregiver.org.
Ear surgeon to begin trials of “SoundBite” hearing system—on himself!

Novel bone conduction technology is now available in Jacksonville in a non-invasive device. Mandarin Hearing and Balance Center has selected itself as the first patient to receive the device. SoundBite takes advantage of a person’s natural teeth structures as the bone conductor to transfer sound vibrations to the inner ear.

According to Dr. Knox, “Bone conduction has long been recognized as one of the most effective methods for bringing sound to patients with single-sided deafness. Using the SoundBite system, we can custom-fit patients with a non-invasive, high-tech solution that does not require surgery, a permanent implant or a lengthy delay for the implant to take hold.”

Unlike bone-anchored hearing aids that use a surgical implant in the skull, SoundBite hearing system consists of two simple components. One piece is an easy to insert and remove In-The-Mouth (ITM) hearing device, which is custom-made to fit around the upper, left or right back molar teeth. The other component is a small Behind-The-Ear (BTE) microphone unit that tucks behind and inside the impaired ear. SoundBite is nearly invisible when worn. No modifications to the teeth are required. Both components are rechargeable.

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

Company celebrates ten years of serving seniors

Kathryn Murphy RN, MSN, Owner

For the past 10 years, Kathryn Murphy, the owner of Comfort Keepers® serving Jacksonville and the surrounding beaches, has dedicated herself to providing seniors and other area residents with exceptional in-home care services while establishing her company as one of the leading service providers of in-home care. Murphy’s company has served over 500 clients, allowing them to live independently and safely within their own homes and is proud to announce their 10-year anniversary.

Murphy believes much of her success can be traced back to the mission of Comfort Keepers: to provide clients with the highest level of quality of life that is achievable. Because their caregivers, which they call Comfort Keepers, devote hours of their lives to help others, the families of their clients can live their lives with the peace-of-mind knowing that their loved ones are in the hands of compassionate and trustworthy individuals who have a genuine concern for others.

All Comfort Keepers® must pass a comprehensive hiring process including three interviews, local, state and national background screening including fingerprinting, blood and alcohol prescreen, driving standards as well as complete a two day orientation. Hired as employees, they are covered with workers compensation, professional and general liability insurance and are bonded with all employer taxes paid on their behalf.

“Chinese has also been actively serving the community in a volunteer basis by collecting food for low income seniors through a program called Feed Seniors Now. It is part of a larger Comfort Keepers initiative that focuses on proper nutrition for seniors. To assist in this program, we call 230-9220.

“We owe our success to the families of this community who initially made the decision to put their trust in Comfort Keepers to care for their loved ones,” says Murphy. “We are very proud of the growth and success that our organization has had over the years. Our hard work is truly paid off at the end of each day when we settle in at home and know that we have made a difference in the lives of so many.”

Be sure to look for their ad in this issue of Senior NewsLine!

Candidates’ statements cont. from pg. 19 of Section A, Mandarin NewsLine

Conservation District, Group 2

It is a great pleasure to be running for a seat on the Soil and Conservation District, Group 2. Our community is one that is unique in Florida. It encompasses both an urban and rural core, from the suburban streets of Mandarin to the busy streets of Southside. If we want to protect these areas, we have to create policies that encourage preservation and environmental friendliness. These include topics like: soil erosion, the safe disposal of our water, discouraging pollution and the safe utilization of water resources. When we do this it can protect a community we all love and ensure our environment is preserved for our 2 families. By being employed by CSX Technology, I have gained invaluable experience in financial...
Looking for active retirement living?

Westminster Woods on Julington Creek is Jacksonville’s best choice for active, senior living. Residents quickly find they enjoy life more fully now that they’re freed from the time and expense of home maintenance. They choose from a wide array of options in home styles, activities, dining, progressive fitness and wellness programs. Westminster Woods on Julington Creek also provides a range of health care services, if ever needed.

Nestled in 86 acres of lush, semi-tropical paradise on the arm of the St. Johns River, the community provides the best combination of a private, natural setting with the big-city amenities of nearby Jacksonville and the quiet historic charm of St. Augustine.

The community’s newly constructed Southwood Village homes are appointed with the finest amenities and have won top design honors from the National Home Buyers Association. Only four homes are left in this serene, gated setting neighborhood that features a clubhouse, pool and tennis amenities.

Westminster Woods on Julington Creek proudly offers financial incentives to retired ministers, missionaries, Christian educators, retired career military or surviving spouse as well as retired teachers, firefighters, and police officers. For many residents, the only question left is: Why did I wait so long?

Call today for a personal tour and discover why a move to Westminster Woods on Julington Creek makes your life easier and gives you the time and expense of home maintenance back. They choose to enjoy life more fully.

Be sure to look for their ad in this issue of Senior NewsLine!
Get out of the dark with routine eye exams

(NewsUSA) - Every five seconds, someone goes blind, but in 80 percent of the cases, the blindness is preventable. Blindness from eye disease is preventable, but in 80 percent of the cases, the blindness is preventable.

EyeCare America provides year-round eye exams at no out-of-pocket cost to people age 65 and over. Eye exams are provided by a corps of nearly 7,000 EyeCare America ophthalmologists across the United States and Puerto Rico.

People who are interested in the program can visit www.eye-careamerica.org to see if they are eligible. The organization’s online referral center also enables friends and family eye exams cont. on pg. 7

Baptist AgeWell Center for Senior Health, the centerpiece program of Baptist AgeWell Institute, has officially opened to patients and their families. Led by a fellowship-trained geriatric ophthalmologist and staffed by a multidisciplinary gerontology-trained team, AgeWell Center for Senior Health is an outpatient clinic of Baptist Medical Center Jackson-ville offering a comprehensive approach to geriatric healthcare that is unique to our region.

Baptist Health has a long-standing commitment to helping people in our community maintain their quality of life as they age,” says Hugh Greene, president and CEO of Baptist Health. “In 2011, we deepened this commitment by forming Baptist AgeWell Institute, which integrates research, education, clinical care and social services into a holistic program, followed by the opening of AgeWell Emergency Care for our elderly ER patients. The opening of AgeWell Center for Senior Health is the next significant step in transforming the way our community cares for older adults.”

Located on the first floor of the Baptist/Aetna building on Prudential Drive, AgeWell Center for Senior Health is designed to serve individuals 65 and older who are experiencing complex issues affecting their daily activities. Common issues include:

- Decline in function or ability to care for oneself
- Falls, unsteady balance, muscle weakness
- Multiple ER visits or unplanned hospitalizations in the past year
- Incontinence
- Poor appetite, weight loss
- Memory loss, dementia
- Depression, anxiety
- Diagnosis of multiple diseases or conditions
- Multiple prescribed medications

Clinical care at AgeWell Center is led by Marisol Lash-D0, a fellowship-trained geriatrician who recently moved to Jacksonville from Birmingham, Alabama where she was an assistant professor at the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Division of Gerontology, Geriatrics and Palliative Care.

“I have made it my mission to improve the health and quality of life of older persons,” Dr. Lance. “I am very excited to be here in Jacksonville leading the healthcare team that will positively impact the lives of seniors in Northeast Florida through the work of Baptist AgeWell Center.”

Patrick McCain, Non-Partisan Candidate for Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 4

This race is about three issues: advocacy, accountability, and accessibility. If you haven’t followed this race so far, I can’t blame you. Many residents do not know about the Duval County Soil and Water Conservation Board, its purposes or its powers. There’s a reason for that: those elected to the board are un- paid supervisors with almost no accountability and without any compensation. Why would someone spend thousands of dollars to win this election? They want to have an open debate about the true value of this board to the community.

I am concerned that the board has effectively become a sort of breeding ground for politicians rather than a useful apparatus of local government. I, like you, am concerned about conservation and environmental preservation. That’s why I ask for your support in this election. I want the actions of the board to be transparent. That means less space on their website for biographies and more for their activities. If you are really interested in my biography, call or e-mail me at mc- canips@gmail.com. My number is 904-465-0842. I’ll be available after the election. Please do not overlook this race when you go to vote. Let the last name on the ballot be your first choice for Soil and Water Conservation District! Vote Patrick McCain on November 6. Thank you for your support.

Editor’s Note: This concludes the Candidate Statements for the November 6 General Election for Mandarin. Mandarin NewsLine reminds you to vote as you please, but please vote!
River Garden celebrates the future

On Monday evening, October 15, River Garden Senior Services hosted more than 300 guests for an incredible evening to participate in the official dedication of the agency’s new addition and updated space. Members from throughout the Jacksonville community came out to help River Garden celebrate this milestone in the agency’s history. Guests included leaders from the Jewish community and well as from the larger Jacksonville community including City Councilman Matt Schellenberg and representatives from Baptist Health, Florida Blue, SunTrust Bank, Community Hospice, Haven Hospice and Artha Health.

Donors, board members, residents and family members enjoyed cocktails and hors doeuvres as they toured the new and refurbished facilities. One guest commented, “The Home never looked more stunning,” while another said, “My mother lives upstairs and she is happier and healthier than she’s been in a long time.”

As part of the event, Linda and David Stein were recognized for their $1 million lead gift to the capital campaign. To schedule a tour please contact Kathy Osterre, director of development or Beth Goetz, CEO of River Garden.

With the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period quickly approaching (October 15 through December 7), now is a good time for seniors to review their current health care and prescription drug coverage. Medicare beneficiaries are encouraged to carefully evaluate their health care needs and seek assistance as needed to prepare for the Medicare Annual Election Period.

With so many options among Medicare Prescription Drug (Part D) Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans, which vary by location, it is important for seniors to understand what options are available to them. Medicare beneficiaries who have questions or concerns about the upcoming Medicare Annual Election Period have a place to turn and get objective help comparing plans.

Specially trained SHINE volunteer counselors provide free information and assistance at several locations throughout Duval and St. Johns counties. To make an appointment, call the ElderHelpLine toll-free at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337) and ask to be connected with a SHINE counselor.

Individuals interested in getting help comparing plans should be ready to go to their counseling appointment with important information about their health and prescription drug coverage. To provide the best assistance, SHINE volunteers will need a list of medications the individual takes, a list of providers he or she wants to use (e.g., doctor or pharmacy), and any notices from an existing plan (i.e., Annual Notice of Change), Social Security or Medicare about changes to costs and coverage for next year.

SHINE is a free service of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, operated locally through the Elder Source in Jacksonville, FL. SHINE provides free and unbiased Medicare information and counseling. For more information or to learn how you can volunteer, please call the Elder Helpline toll-free at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337) or visit www.FloridaSHINE.org.

SHINE volunteers help navigate Medicare year-round

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