Mustang Band looks back fondly and then forward with anticipation

By Contributing Writer Brooke Sapolsky and Levena Osher, Historian, MHS Band

This past year in the Mandarin Mustang Band, we had a wonderful group of graduates. These graduates have suffered through a lot of two and a half hour marching rehearsals with little water and a lot of repetition. They have spent numerous Saturdays drenched in sweat with their hair in tight knots marching alongside classmates and friends to create the perfect formation. They played songs as loudly as possible for hundreds of thousands of people who shared their passion for music.

As the senior class of 2013 leaves us, we will have an integral part of the band to be a part of something bigger than themselves and to play alongside many other people who shared their passion for music. The exemplary group of graduates. What a year we had! The seniors have suff ered through a lot of two and a half hour marching rehearsals with little water and a lot of repetition.

Sure, sometimes they felt like it was all too much, but they never gave up. They knew that the band as a whole needed them as individuals to make the show work. Maybe they were just a group of separate individuals but in that field, the individuals made the team. This is why they stayed committed to band— to be a part of something larger than themselves and to play alongside many other people who shared their passion for music.

That have recently graduated. Each person was an important member of our band, so we would like to mention every graduate. Our graduates in- clude Mason Anthony, Jackson Benfer, Ronald Brame, Anthony Cassette, Brandon Henderson, Preston Jones, Ryan Lastrapes, Elijah Mize, Terence Moultrie, Brooke Pitts, Cody Rigby, David Stevenson, Brittany Teal, Rachel Thompson, Jennifer Tipton, Andrew Turner, Nick Williams and Klaudio Xhindoli.

Music is a lifestyle and car- Replacing the won- derful musicians that have recently graduated make the Mustang Band create the perfect formation. Of course, new members will join the band family and take those spots to continue to help the Mighty Mustang March- ing Band create the exemplar- iny shows we pride ourselves for, but they will never be able to truly replace the won-

terful musicians that have recently graduated.

Of course, new members will join the band family and take those spots to continue to help the Mighty Mustang Marching Band create the exemplariny shows we pride ourselves for, but they will never be able to truly replace the wonderful musicians that have recently graduated. Each person was an important member of our band, so we would like to mention every graduate. Our graduates in- clude Mason Anthony, Jackson Benfer, Ronald Brame, Anthony Cassette, Brandon Henderson, Preston Jones, Ryan Lastrapes, Elijah Mize, Terence Moultrie, Brooke Pitts, Cody Rigby, David Stevenson, Brittany Teal, Rachel Thompson, Jennifer Tipton, Andrew Turner, Nick Williams and Klaudio Xhindoli.

Music is a lifestyle and car-

“Catholic Night at Ballpark” thrills fans

By Karl Kennell

It brought back fond memories of days gone by when Mama and Papa would gather the kids together for a real treat, a live baseball game at the local ball- park. On Wednesday, August 14, the fami- lies and parishioners of the Diocese of St. Augustine gathered at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville to watch the Jackson- ville Suns take on the Birmingham Barons. Over 550 tickets were sold to members of the Diocese making “Catholic Night at the Ballpark” account for half of the evening’s attendance for the game.

Just like in the old days, everyone made their way through the turnstiles to the seats, old friendships were renewed. And the chatter was renewed. And the chatter was about bringing each other up to date with what was going on in each family’s lives. After grabbing a soda and hot dog the seats filled. Then Bishop Felipe Estevez came to the mound escorted by Southpaw, the Jacksonville Suns Mascot. Southpaw had made Bishop Estevez was appropri- oately outfitted for his upcoming duties in a Jacksonville Suns jersey and ball cap. After taking the mound, the Bishop made his windup and threw a right hand one hop pitch straight to home plate, which was quickly scooped up by the Suns’ catcher.

Later Bishop Estevez was openly excited about the more than 550 Catholics from around the Diocese who came out to support “Catholic Night at the Ballpark” and support the Jacksonville Suns. The specia-Catholic Night cont. on pg. 18
BARTRAM LAKES
BROOKS ASSISTED LIVING

Assisted Living & Memory Care
Community: Now Leasing!

Bartram Lakes Assisted Living and Memory Care is a fun, engaging community offering customized care. Bartram Lakes incorporates all the expertise and quality that Brooks has to offer with the comfort, style and choice that seniors desire.

NOW LEASING STUDIO, ONE-BEDROOM
AND TWO-BEDROOM OPTIONS!
Lake View Suites Still Available

 Reserve your place at Bartram Lakes today!
Call 904-210-8844 or visit BartramLakes.org

OFF I-95 at EXIT 335 at
Old St. Augustine Rd.

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN

If it’s broke…fix it!

Finance big projects and get peace of mind with a low fixed rate and a low monthly payment. Remodel your kitchen, install a pool, or replace your roof – anything you need to spruce up your home!

- Personal loan for home improvement projects
- Loan amounts up to $30,000
- Terms up to 84 months

JAX FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Call, click, or visit our Mandarin branch for more details today!

In the Publix Shopping Center
Mandarin Rd & San Jose Blvd.
904-475-8000

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA
Jax Federal Credit Union membership required—open to all Duval, Clay, Nassau, Baker, and St. Johns counties in Florida. Creditworthiness and certain restrictions apply.

www.jaxfcu.org
Community Happenings

On Saturday, September 7 Whole Foods Market will host a Kids Day of Service from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at Mandarin Park. Volunteers will help beautify the park by removing litter and debris from the park grounds and to plant flowers, plant trees, and plant flowers. Whole Foods’ goal is to make this experience fun, uplifting and meaningful as well as a way to celebrate the joys of healthy eating and healthy communities! For additional information, please contact Adrienne Cartagena at adrienne.cartagena@wholefoods.com.

QuiltFest 2013 will be held in the Prime Osborne Convention from September 26 through 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., featuring over 400 quilts, a quilt sale booth, vendors, silent auction, and a children’s booth. For more information, please contact Martie Thompson at 262-5201 for more information.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will be playing Bingo as they swing back into action after a lazy summer with a luncheon on Thursday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The Friends of Mandarin South Library are working on projects to use the funds they have raised at their recent book sale. New members are welcome! For more information, please call Diane at 880-5354 or check www.MandarinNewsLine.com. The Friends of the Mandarin Ramada Inn held on September 18 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Members of the club have made gift baskets as prizes. All monies received will go into the charity fund. Guests are invited to attend! For reservations, please call 262-8719. For information, please call Marian at 288-0078.

The September general meeting of the All Star Quilters Guild will be held on Monday, September 16th at 9:30am in the Ramada Inn at 3130 Hartley Road in Mandarin. The club will be playing Bingo as they swing back into action after a lazy summer with a luncheon on Thursday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The AARP Driver Safety Program for drivers 50 and older will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, September 10 and 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Memorial Hospital. The fee is $12; non-members fee is $14 and participants must attend both days for certification to qualify for auto insurance discount. To register, please call 391-1320.

The Teen Advisory Board at the Mandarin Branch Library is meeting on Thursday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will be holding a Bingo Party held at the Mandarin Ramada Inn on September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will be holding a Bingo Party held at the Mandarin Ramada Inn on September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will be holding a Bingo Party held at the Mandarin Ramada Inn on September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.

The Mandarin Women’s Club will be holding a Bingo Party held at the Mandarin Ramada Inn on September 26 at 4:00 p.m. Please call Don Carpenter at 262-5201 for more information.
In July 2013, the City Council affirmed the settlement of over $3.4 million in a case against the city for not cutting down a dead tree limb in the Mandarin area. Unfortunately, in 2010 the limb fell, hitting and paralyzing a young boy.

Six months prior to the incident, a Mandarin constitu-ent contacted the city and asked that the limb be cut down. Nothing was done and the tragedy occurred. I mention this because part of the beauty of Mandarin is its tree-lined streets. I find I walk a fine line with constituents who request to remove limbs that could be ob-structively dangerous and those who object to any trimming of the trees. It is absolutely im-perative that we maintain the beauty of Mandarin while also ensuring that they do not pres-ent a danger to our residents.

Another matter recently brought to my attention is the addition of the newly painted bike stencils on Mandarin, Beauclerc and Scott Mill Roads. While unbeknownst to me as to why these stencils were ap-plied, I do support the Public Works Department and was told that according to state law, a road 14 feet or less in width is a concern to many of us, it is imperative that drivers and road 14 feet or less in width is a concern to many of us, it is imperative that drivers and other motorists on these roads and strive to ensure that they do not pres-ent a danger to our residents.

The city does not have a revenue problem; it has a pension agreement problem! In just last 12 years, our pension obligations have increased from $10 million to $161 million due to this year; in 10 years, the city's obligation will be $200 mil-lion; and in fifteen years, $250 million. How much more can we take?

The mayor's proposal did little, if anything, to stop this steep climb. Why am I not sur-prised? Please do not hesitate to contact me at Matts@co.jg.net or 630-1387.
September greetings! As the slower pace of summer quickly fades and the back to school schedules begin full of excitement that same emotion is felt in your election office. The past several months have been full of excitement, planning and preparation for the Elections Office. My office has enjoyed great experiences through these summer months by our involvement in community outreach events, foreign delegation visits, reviewing and implicating the election reform bill passed in the 2013 legislative session and wrapping up the August 27 Atlantic Beach Primary Election. With so much enthusiasm I am pleased to share some period-ending changes that I feel will provide a positive effect on Duval County voters in 2014!

Our office is kick-starting our “Connect with Us in 2014” campaign—encouraging voters and citizens to not only come out and vote but also become involved in the electoral process with us as a poll worker. Our Office is holding educational presentations, voter registration drives and voting machine demonstrations to jump start “Connect to Us” this fall.

In light of our “Connect with Us,” I am proud to announce the Outreach Department is focused on voter awareness and education. We are encouraging voters, organizations and service groups to contact us for the following services:

- Elections Presentations
- Voter registration drives
- Voting machine demonstrations
- Tours of the Elections Office
- Poll worker recruitment and training

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach programs, contact Garrett Dennis, director of outreach at 630-8012 or gdennis@coj.net.

As we move towards the 2014 elections, we encourage every voter and citizen to review his or her voter information to make certain it is current and up to date. Voter Registration records are very important to maintain accuracy. If your signature or address needs to be updated a quick call or simply completing a voter registration application will ensure your information is up to date.

Voters may verify their information by visiting our website at DuvalElections.com and clicking on “Voter Status” tab on the title bar or contact the Elections Office at 630-1414. Voters are encouraged in staying on top with the latest election news let us know by contacting our office at munic@coj.net. Once signed up you will receive a quarterly newsletter with up to date events and changes with our office.

As Supervisor of Elections, my office and I are working hard to make sure that this upcoming election season is conducted accurately and accessible for all voters with the transparency and integrity Duval County residents have come to respect. Thank you for granting my office another opportunity to work towards the superior commendations of liberty, the right to vote!

Thank you for your help. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to all who choose to vote in Duval County.

D’Auray L. Warden
Supervisor of Elections

---

Letter to the Editor:
The Jacksonville Public Library was pleased to see two columns in the August edition of Mandarin NewsLine in support of libraries. While we greatly appreciate the intent of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s column titled, “Libraries are not obsolete,” we take issue with statements made and the results of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s election office. The past campaign—encouraging voters and citizens to not only come out and vote but also become involved in the electoral process with us as a poll worker. Our Office is holding educational presentations, voter registration drives and voting machine demonstrations to jump start “Connect to Us” this fall.

In light of our “Connect with Us,” I am proud to announce the Outreach Department is focused on voter awareness and education. We are encouraging voters, organizations and service groups to contact us for the following services:

- Elections Presentations
- Voter registration drives
- Voting machine demonstrations
- Tours of the Elections Office
- Poll worker recruitment and training

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach programs, contact Garrett Dennis, director of outreach at 630-8012 or gdennis@coj.net.

As we move towards the 2014 elections, we encourage every voter and citizen to review his or her voter information to make certain it is current and up to date. Voter Registration records are very important to maintain accuracy. If your signature or address needs to be updated a quick call or simply completing a voter registration application will ensure your information is up to date.

Voters may verify their information by visiting our website at DuvalElections.com and clicking on “Voter Status” tab on the title bar or contact the Elections Office at 630-1414. Voters are encouraged in staying on top with the latest election news let us know by contacting our office at munic@coj.net. Once signed up you will receive a quarterly newsletter with up to date events and changes with our office.

As Supervisor of Elections, my office and I are working hard to make sure that this upcoming election season is conducted accurately and accessible for all voters with the transparency and integrity Duval County residents have come to respect. Thank you for granting my office another opportunity to work towards the superior commendations of liberty, the right to vote!

Thank you for your help. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to all who choose to vote in Duval County.

D’Auray L. Warden
Supervisor of Elections

---

Call the Water Treatment Company. Jacksonville has trusted for over 20 years. 3760 KORI RD. (904) 262-0197

Dear Editor:
The Jacksonville Public Library was pleased to see two columns in the August edition of Mandarin NewsLine in support of libraries. While we greatly appreciate the intent of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s column titled, “Libraries are not obsolete,” we take issue with statements made and the results of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s election office. The past campaign—encouraging voters and citizens to not only come out and vote but also become involved in the electoral process with us as a poll worker. Our Office is holding educational presentations, voter registration drives and voting machine demonstrations to jump start “Connect to Us” this fall.

In light of our “Connect with Us,” I am proud to announce the Outreach Department is focused on voter awareness and education. We are encouraging voters, organizations and service groups to contact us for the following services:

- Elections Presentations
- Voter registration drives
- Voting machine demonstrations
- Tours of the Elections Office
- Poll worker recruitment and training

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach programs, contact Garrett Dennis, director of outreach at 630-8012 or gdennis@coj.net.

As we move towards the 2014 elections, we encourage every voter and citizen to review his or her voter information to make certain it is current and up to date. Voter Registration records are very important to maintain accuracy. If your signature or address needs to be updated a quick call or simply completing a voter registration application will ensure your information is up to date.

Voters may verify their information by visiting our website at DuvalElections.com and clicking on “Voter Status” tab on the title bar or contact the Elections Office at 630-1414. Voters are encouraged in staying on top with the latest election news let us know by contacting our office at munic@coj.net. Once signed up you will receive a quarterly newsletter with up to date events and changes with our office.

As Supervisor of Elections, my office and I are working hard to make sure that this upcoming election season is conducted accurately and accessible for all voters with the transparency and integrity Duval County residents have come to respect. Thank you for granting my office another opportunity to work towards the superior commendations of liberty, the right to vote!

Thank you for your help. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to all who choose to vote in Duval County.

D’Auray L. Warden
Supervisor of Elections

---

Call the Water Treatment Company. Jacksonville has trusted for over 20 years. 3760 KORI RD. (904) 262-0197

Dear Editor:
The Jacksonville Public Library was pleased to see two columns in the August edition of Mandarin NewsLine in support of libraries. While we greatly appreciate the intent of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s column titled, “Libraries are not obsolete,” we take issue with statements made and the results of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s election office. The past campaign—encouraging voters and citizens to not only come out and vote but also become involved in the electoral process with us as a poll worker. Our Office is holding educational presentations, voter registration drives and voting machine demonstrations to jump start “Connect to Us” this fall.

In light of our “Connect with Us,” I am proud to announce the Outreach Department is focused on voter awareness and education. We are encouraging voters, organizations and service groups to contact us for the following services:

- Elections Presentations
- Voter registration drives
- Voting machine demonstrations
- Tours of the Elections Office
- Poll worker recruitment and training

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach programs, contact Garrett Dennis, director of outreach at 630-8012 or gdennis@coj.net.

As we move towards the 2014 elections, we encourage every voter and citizen to review his or her voter information to make certain it is current and up to date. Voter Registration records are very important to maintain accuracy. If your signature or address needs to be updated a quick call or simply completing a voter registration application will ensure your information is up to date.

Voters may verify their information by visiting our website at DuvalElections.com and clicking on “Voter Status” tab on the title bar or contact the Elections Office at 630-1414. Voters are encouraged in staying on top with the latest election news let us know by contacting our office at munic@coj.net. Once signed up you will receive a quarterly newsletter with up to date events and changes with our office.

As Supervisor of Elections, my office and I are working hard to make sure that this upcoming election season is conducted accurately and accessible for all voters with the transparency and integrity Duval County residents have come to respect. Thank you for granting my office another opportunity to work towards the superior commendations of liberty, the right to vote!

Thank you for your help. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to all who choose to vote in Duval County.

D’Auray L. Warden
Supervisor of Elections

---

Call the Water Treatment Company. Jacksonville has trusted for over 20 years. 3760 KORI RD. (904) 262-0197

Dear Editor:
The Jacksonville Public Library was pleased to see two columns in the August edition of Mandarin NewsLine in support of libraries. While we greatly appreciate the intent of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s column titled, “Libraries are not obsolete,” we take issue with statements made and the results of Mr. J. Bruce Richardson’s election office. The past campaign—encouraging voters and citizens to not only come out and vote but also become involved in the electoral process with us as a poll worker. Our Office is holding educational presentations, voter registration drives and voting machine demonstrations to jump start “Connect to Us” this fall.

In light of our “Connect with Us,” I am proud to announce the Outreach Department is focused on voter awareness and education. We are encouraging voters, organizations and service groups to contact us for the following services:

- Elections Presentations
- Voter registration drives
- Voting machine demonstrations
- Tours of the Elections Office
- Poll worker recruitment and training

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach programs, contact Garrett Dennis, director of outreach at 630-8012 or gdennis@coj.net.

As we move towards the 2014 elections, we encourage every voter and citizen to review his or her voter information to make certain it is current and up to date. Voter Registration records are very important to maintain accuracy. If your signature or address needs to be updated a quick call or simply completing a voter registration application will ensure your information is up to date.

Voters may verify their information by visiting our website at DuvalElections.com and clicking on “Voter Status” tab on the title bar or contact the Elections Office at 630-1414. Voters are encouraged in staying on top with the latest election news let us know by contacting our office at munic@coj.net. Once signed up you will receive a quarterly newsletter with up to date events and changes with our office.

As Supervisor of Elections, my office and I are working hard to make sure that this upcoming election season is conducted accurately and accessible for all voters with the transparency and integrity Duval County residents have come to respect. Thank you for granting my office another opportunity to work towards the superior commendations of liberty, the right to vote!

Thank you for your help. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to all who choose to vote in Duval County.

D’Auray L. Warden
Supervisor of Elections

---
The Sheriff Reports

By Contributing Writer John H. Rutherford, Duval County Sheriff

Back-to-School safety tips

School is back in session and parents need to spend some time thinking about back-to-school safety issues.

• Traveling to and from school. There is no “right” age for kids to start walking or biking to school alone or with a friend. Each family needs to consider the maturity of their child, how many busy streets they have to cross and if these streets have lights or crossing guards. Please visit http://tinyurl.com/9e3z2v4 for bicycle safety materials including, “Ten Smart Routes to Bicycle Safety” and “McGuff Says Be Bicycle Safe?”.

• Being home alone. A big safety concern for parents is how to protect kids who are home alone after school. The favorite rule uttered by parents is: “Don’t let a stranger inside the house.” It’s a good rule, but one that parents forget is: “It’s OK to do until mom or dad get home and what is not. Getting started on homework, letting the dog out, having a snack, what friends can come over, what websites they can visit and which are off limits. These are decisions and rules that they have enacted.

• Rules for internet use: Children need to know what is OK to do until mom or dad get home and what is not. Getting started on homework, letting the dog out, having a snack, what friends can come over, what websites they can visit and which are off limits. These are decisions and rules that a parent or guardian should discuss with the child and decide on, before school begins. There can be structure to a child’s day, even if no one else is home, leaving less opportunity for unsupervised child to get into trouble.

Does Jacksonville have a curfew? Yes! And it is enforced throughout the year. A curfew applies to persons under 18 years of age. The curfew is 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight on Friday and Saturday nights. A person under 18 is exempt if he or she is: 1. A parent or guardian or other person 18 or over who is authorized by the parent to have control over the child, 2. At or going to or from a job, school or church function, 3. Attending an event open to the public and supervised by adults and beginning no later than 10:00 p.m., 4. In an area immediately adjacent to his or her residence, 5. Running an emergency errand.

For more information about the curfew law please visit http://tinyurl.com/9gglqllj. Truancy: In addition to the curfew law, the city of Jacksonville abides by Florida State Statute 232.19 regarding the penalties regarding the mandate for school attendance by children, ages six to 16 years of age. Parents and children are subject to penalties for truancy under this law.

For more information about truancy please visit http://tinyurl.com/9gglqllj.

Heart center recognized for delivering quality care

Memorial Hospital is the only hospital in Jacksonville, and one of fewer than 200 hospitals nationwide, to be named a Blue Distinction Center+ for Cardiac Care. The Blue Distinction Center recognition program was established by The Blue Cross and Blue Shield System (BCBS) to identify hospitals with proven expertise in delivering specialty care. According to BCBS, Blue Distinction Centers+ demonstrate better quality and improved outcomes for patients, with lower rates of complications following certain cardiac procedures and lower rates of healthcare associated infections.

BCBS says Blue Distinction Centers+ are also 20 percent more cost-efficient than non-designated hospitals. For more information, please visit www.bcbs.com/

What’s New cont. from pg. 4

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

Are you troubled by someone’s drinking? Al-Anon Family Groups can help. Let us share our experience, strength and hope. Join us every Monday night from 8:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the First Christian Church of Jacksonville, located at 11924 San Jose Boulevard or visit us at www.jaxafg.org.

Are you a compulsive over-eater? Do you eat when you’re not hungry or not when your body needs nutrition? Do you go on eating binges for no apparent reason? Do you have feelings of guilt, shame or embarrassment about how you eat? Do you eat in front of the TV and then make up for it when you’re alone? If you answered yes to any of these questions, Overeaters Anonymous (OA) may help. The group meets every Thursday from 12:00 noon until 1:15 p.m. at Christian Family Chapel, located at 10365 Old St. Augustine Road, in Building D, Room 4. For information, please call 472-4067.

The Northwest Florida Quit Smoking Now (GNQSN) program is now offering free tobacco cessation classes at Baptist Medical Center South in the Azalea Conference Room. The classes meet once a week for six consecutive weeks and provide a free workbook, water bottle and stress ball as well as free nicotine replacement, a nicotine patch, nicotine gum and cough drops to assist tobacco users in their quit attempt. Classes will be held on Thursdays through September 26 from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please call 482-0300 to register or visit our website at www.northfloridahope.org.
Political commentary

Taxes and civilized society
By David Milton

Let’s talk about taxes. Some of you, having read those four words, may skip to the next article. Other of you will experience a knee-jerk response: you might assume I’m a big government, tax-and-spend liberal who frights any spending cuts, even for programs or policies that aren’t working. Or you might assume I’m a government-hating, tax-cutting conservative who opposes any price that raises taxes, even if necessary and by just a few dollars per person.

But those stereotypes don’t fit me or most people, despite the media and some self-serving politicians telling us otherwise. To move past those stereotypes and on to more productive discussions, we – including our elected officials – have to listen to each other.

For example, if we’ll listen, we might be reminded that services that make our city livable – services like roads and other infrastructure, schools, libraries and summer programs, police officers and fire fighters, parks and recreation, public health and public works – come with a price tag. We might be reminded that taxes and budgets reflect our values and priorities and have a real and immediate impact on individual people and on our entire city.

Similarly, if we’ll listen, we might be reminded that most taxpayers aren’t hedge fund managers sitting around counting piles of money and that those tax dollars aren’t just numbers on a piece of paper. Those tax dollars represent our hard work and sacrifice.

We might be reminded that if we’re irresponsible with taxes or budgets, we are disrespecting the hard work and sacrifice of the taxpayers who fund the budgets.

So here’s the basic question for September: in light of Jacksonville’s anticipated budget shortfall, does our city need to raise more revenue via taxes?

Here’s the short (and perhaps unpopular) answer: probably. If we’ve tapped all other potential revenue sources and trimmed the budget where possible and if the services or programs we’re funding with the increased revenue are truly necessary, we should consider a tax increase.

If we’re talking about properly financing the services and programs that make Jacksonville a pleasant place to live, the city might need to increase revenue.

Raising taxes is usually politically taboo. Thus, we need the Mayor and the City Council – our elected officials with a solemn responsibility to tax and budget honestly and openly – to work together, to ask hard questions and to give honest answers. We also need our elected officials to make difficult decisions that promote best interests of our city and its people, even if those decisions might dampen a political future or offend an interest group.

Most people I know are willing to pay taxes because they believe we all agree with Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes’s observation: “Taxes are what we pay for civilized society.”

We just don’t like irresponsible taxing or spending. So, Mayor Brown and City Council members, we’re counting on each of you to listen when it’s time to talk taxes.

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

Political commentary

Jacksonville’s ruling class wants increased local taxes
By J. Bruce Richardson

In a recent Sunday column, the editor of Mandarín’s other newspaper laid out a case for more local taxes. His argument was Jacksonville has lower taxes than other Florida cities of equal size, so we need more taxes to “keep up” with other cities. A cadre of Jacksonville’s ruling class are also calling for increased local taxes, saying the city can’t grow without them.

The irony is these people are mostly conservative and Republican. Liberals and their ilk always seem to be in favor of more taxes because it gives them more of somebody else’s money to bring “social justice” to those they feel are deserving recipients of our “accumulated wealth.”

Mayor Alvin Brown – a Democrat – wants no new taxes. He is a good man.

In the spirit of full disclosure, in 1990, this writer put together a successful campaign in Clay County to raise the local sales tax. The voting public agreed and the local sales tax helped pay for new roads, much needed infrastructure and other priorities. Clay County was morphing into a busy bedroom community from its traditional role as a mostly rural county.

Today, Clay County would not be nearly as dynamic as it is without that local sales tax income.

Jacksonville has been established as a busy metropolitan area for more than a century. During that time, many city government failings were created and many departmental empires built. While we hear of poor technical capabilities in one part of city government, we hear of excess capabilities in another. And, of course, there is the ongoing need for viable pension reform for public safety employees.

Here’s the bottom line: Before taxes are raised because our elected leaders aren’t clever enough to figure out waste and abuse in all areas of city government, including the slaughter of more than a few sacred cows and somebody, somewhere, needs to take a critical look at everything city government does and figure out what is right and what is wrong.

We hear constantly about visionary city programs for taking Jacksonville into the future, but we hear very little about cleaning up the messes left by Jacksonville’s past.

While it is true long recessionary periods such as we’re in now are great motivators for reducing city government because of less tax money coming in due to reduced economic activity and the city has tightened its governmental belt by laying off employees and reducing overtime hours, did we go far enough?

Talking heads of late have begun the conversation about career government employees and the costs associated with them, including lifetime pensions and healthcare. Does Jacksonville city government need employees to spend a lifetime in public employment, with no employees being added to the system which bring private company experience and entrepreneurial values? Government cackling along “because we’ve always done it that way” is bad government. Government needs to be both dynamic and small, without a pool of lifetime employees.

Jacksonville needs smart government, not taxes to support an outdated, outmoded governmental structure.

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

September 2 is Labor Day
Legal public holiday, first celebrated in 1882 in New York to honor workers everywhere.

Labor DAY
Celebrating 50 years in business!

www.MandarinNewsLine.com • September 2013 • Mandarin NewsLine, Page 7
E Pluribus Unum: Civics for one and all

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

Patriotism: an emotion associated with national pride, civic duty and even a willing-ness to sacrifice. Among my most patriotsically exhilarating experiences was attending the Independence Day festivities in Washington, D.C. The first time was in 1995 when I was a participant in the National Geographic Society Instructional Leadership Institute with 40 other teachers from the United States and Canada. Several of us attended the concert and fireworks extravaganza on the Capitol lawn. Among the thousands there that day were a multitude of languages, reli-gions, ideologies, ethnicities and nationalities. The revelry was extraordinary. Afterward, my Canadian friends commented that American patriotism and our “flag-waving” was curious. Where, though, is the line between healthy patriotism and the corrupt extremes? Current immigration policy debate provides us an interesting perspective on that difficult question.

The debate is concerned primarily with how to manage future immigration and what to do about the millions of undocumented immigrants. Being a nation of immigrants, the goal of proudly protecting America’s lives, values and future is delicately balanced with the obligation to allow others the opportunity God has given us. Additionally, when we apply our values to international affairs, other concerns arise. Butts warned that protecting human rights can devolve into cultural imperialism. Consider two historical attempts by the United States to protect human rights abroad. First, during America’s involvement in “third-world” countries during the Cold War, were we sincerely attempting to work fervently to whatever compromised solution we could imagine, or were we guilty of cultural imperialism? Second, some critics of the Bush/Cheney administration accused them of nation-building in Iraq by forcing American values where they weren’t wanted. One could argue that in each instance, the United States was guilty of both good intentions and misguided ambitions.

The goal of spreading democracy a noble effort to help others acquire fundamental hu-man rights or is it imperialist to assume that all other cultures should share our values? America is a strong nation of diverse compassionate people thriving to live in a world of peaceful, free people. That contrasts inevitably arise. We are not called to dictate and to con-quer, rather, we are called to work fervently to whatever compromised solution we could imagine, necessary to protect and serve the well-being of all.

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Fri 14-8

After examining many boats, a few things stand out. El share three issues that most commonly decide whether a boat and operator are worth the time and effort to receive a successful safety exam. Clutter and condition are impor-tant, but the first impres-sion and an indicator of success is the registration number on the bow or documentation lettering on the stern. These designators attest to the legal status of the vessel and, like your vehicle’s license plate, the boat must carry current registration when in operation. If that placement, spacing, contrast and size are not in accord with stan-dards, your exam won’t succeed. And if registered boats, be sure to place a current State registra-tion decal on the port side within six feet of the bow.

The next most common failure-producer is to have no adequate distress signals. The rules are different for coastal and inland use, by vessel size and for day and night. The bottom line is that any boat will pass this requirement that carries both night and day signals. Although not required on inland waters, the easy way to do that is to have three current day-night handheld or pistol flares. Flares expire and are not required to carry day signals, but it is a good idea to carry them. Most recently held the position of branch vice-president at Vy-Start’s Downtown Jacksonville Branch.

“We are very enthusiastic about offering VyStar services to Jacksonville’s Riverside and Avondale neighborhoods. A large number of our members have dated, in the area for some time, and they have encour-aged us to open an office here’’ said West.

Leadership is the ability to get extraordinary achievement from ordinary people.

—Brian Tracy

The Helpful Handymen

Inc.

We fix nearly everything... Since 1981

Credit union celebrates the grand opening of 31st full-service branch

Terry R. West, president and chief executive officer of VyStar Credit Union, an-ounced the official opening of the credit union’s new River-side Branch location at 766 18th Street in Jacksonville, VyStar Officials cut the ribbon launching the Grand Opening Celebration of the new branch, in a special ceremony on Wednesday, August 7.

The new branch is a full-service VyStar branch with four teller stations, four mem-ber service offices, two internet banking stations, one drive-up ATM, four drive-through lanes and safe deposit boxes. This is VyStar’s 36th branch, which includes 31 full-service branches and five high school branches.

Mandarin libraries cont. from pg. 1 part of the Summer Volunteer Program.

The Mandarin Branch Library served as a mentor to Tamera Surrency who worked at the library as a part of Mayor Brown’s Summer Employment Program. More than 1000 children, tweens and teens registered for the Dig into Reading and Beneath the Surface Summer Reading Programs at the Mandarin area libraries. More than 1,000 Mandarin area children and their families attended Summer Reading Programs this summer showcasing a diverse array of presenters such as the Jacksonville Zoo, the Curious Moon Puppets, The Hampstead Stage Company, Giddy Gecko, the Jacksonville Suns and juggler Ron Anglin.

The Mandarin Branch Library hosted local author T.L. Randall who delighted story time audiences by reading from her book, “Don’t Try to Kiss a Lizard” on August 8. The Friends of the South Mandarin Branch Library held their first book sale at the branch on June 28 and 29 to raise money to support the branch. From June through August, more than 90,000 customers used the Mandarin area libraries, checking out more than 450,000 books, music CDs, audio books and DVDs. And that’s not counting customers checking out items from our E Library Collection.

To top off a very busy summer, the Jacksonville Public Library introduced Zinio, the world’s largest newsstand, offering full color, interactive digital magazines for your enjoyment. You can browse from the library’s collection of popular titles with no holds, no checkout periods and no limit to the number of magazines you can download. Wow! What a summer!

Once again, thank you again for your support this summer. The Mandarin Branch and the South Mandarin Branch Libraries are essential to the quality of life in this community. We look forward to seeing you in September!
Mandarin neighbors cheer returning wounded soldier

By Karl Kennell

On Friday, August 16 the children of St. Joseph’s Catholic School were let out to join Mandarin neighbors in a special tribute. "St. Michael’s Soldiers for a Hero’s Welcome!” organized a gathering of well-wishers at the corner of Old St. Augustine Road and Loretto Road in front of the school, St. Augustine Diocese Offices, Cody Center and the Historic Church.

American flags were waving and the crowd cheering as First Lt. Ryan Timoney made his way in a motorcycle escorted motorcade south on Old St. Augustine Road from Interstate 295 and down Loretto Road to San Jose Boulevard and finally on to Race Track Road. This journey for Timoney brought him home for the first time after being wounded and having his left leg amputated. It was only fitting that the school children and everyone else came out to welcome him home because he is one of our brave.

Protect yourself against the flu this season by getting vaccinated

One of the most important things seniors and caregivers can do for themselves is to safeguard their health, especially during the flu season. ElderSource, the Area Agency on Aging and Disability Resource Center, has joined the National Council on Aging’s (NCOA) Flu + You campaign to inform adults 65 and older and their caregivers about the seriousness of the flu and the importance of vaccination. The flu is a serious and potentially life-threatening disease and best prevented with an annual vaccination.

Flu + You, a free event designed to educate older adults about the increased risk of complications from the flu, is scheduled for Friday, September 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Williams Family YMCA in Mandarin, located at 10415 San Jose Boulevard. The free event will feature flu shots from Winn Dixie, health screenings and exercise demonstrations from the staff and the Williams Family YMCA and other health screenings offered by Baptist Health. People are reminded that flu shots are a covered benefit under Medicare/insurance. The goal of the event is to improve flu immunization rates in Duval County.

No matter how healthy or youthful we feel, as we age, our immune system weakens, leaving people 65 and older more vulnerable to the flu and its related complications. In fact, each year in the United States, about nine out of 10 flu-related deaths and roughly six out of 10 flu-related hospital stays occur in people 65 and older, making flu vaccination especially crucial for this population.

The good news is adults 65 and older have vaccine options available to help protect against the flu. In addition to the annual flu vaccine, which helps protect against three strains of the flu virus, there is also a quadrivalent vaccine (which helps protect against four strains) and a higher dose vaccine.

Whichever vaccine option is selected, the annual flu shot is a Medicare Part B benefit covered with no co-pay for Medicare beneficiaries 65 years of age and older. Those getting flu shots are encouraged to bring their Medicare ID card or insurance card.

To talk to your health care provider about the dangers of the flu, the benefits of vaccination and the best flu vaccination option to meet the needs of your age group and visit www.ncoa.org/flu for more information.

For more information about the ElderSource Flu + You event, please call 391-6692.
Rabies Alert

Duval County’s second rabies alert of the year has been issued for the Mandarin area.

The alert follows the Mandarin rabies alert of the year has been issued. Duval County’s second rabies alert.

The alert is in effect through

The rabies alert area is bordered on the south by Julington Creek at Duval/Johns County Line, on the north by Loretto Road at San Jose Boulevard, on the west by Orange Boulevard, on the east by Julington Creek Road at Aladdin Road.

The alert follows the discovery of a rabid bat in the Mandarin area.

Stray animals should be reported to the City of Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services at 630-2489.

For further information or to report animal bites, contact Rabies Control at 253-1280.

You may have noticed some construction along San Jose Boulevard lately, especially as you drive along Julington Road at Mandarin Road lately, especially as you drive along Julington Road at Mandarin Road.

You may have noticed some construction along San Jose Boulevard lately, especially as you drive along Julington Road at Mandarin Road.

First Coast Oncology will be the first private practice in the world to offer Proton Therapy, one of the most precise and advanced forms of radiation treatment available today. Construction for the new addition began at the end of May 2012 and First Coast Oncology expects to start treating patients in 2014.

Proton Therapy Center Opening 2014

First Coast Oncology
10881 San Jose Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
904.880.5522
Scot Ackerman, MD
Ryan Perkins, MD
Paul Ossi, MD

FirstCoastOncology.com

Free breast care symposium provides answers

Women want answers and dialogue about breast cancer from area physicians and experts. In order to continue to meet this important need, the sixth annual Pink Ribbon Symposium will be held at the Thrasher-Horne Conference Center, located at 283 College Drive in Orange Park, on Saturday, October 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Founded by Drs. Cynthia Andersen and Linda Sylvestre, the event is proudly presented by ICON Oncology at Orange Park Cancer Center and F.R.O.G. (Florida Radiation Oncology Group).

Important up-to-date information about breast cancer prevention, early detection and treatment options, the side effects of treatment and survivorship will be discussed. Plus, it will offer good health and wellness topics, along with a keynote presentation entitled, “Laughter is the Best Medicine” and a “Meet the Experts” session, which will allow guests to ask questions of local doctors.

More than 500 attend this free symposium annually.

This year’s special guests are two regional female comedians, Gwen Templeton and Roz McCoy, who will headline the event and offer insight into how laughter can ease pain and help the cancer journey in an up-close and personal way.

Guests will be treated to a delicious, healthy continental breakfast. Topics include an update on breast cancer research, genetics, care-givers, stress relief, coping for your body, health, nutrition and exercise. Everyone is invited to the Expo, where up to 50 local and national businesses will showcase their services to help cancer patients and their families. Guests will learn how to care for their body, how sleep can affect cancer treatment and how best to deal with relationships (family, friends).

The schedule is as follows:

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Exhibits and Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. Opening remarks
9:40 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Session 1 – Meet the Experts (latest updates on radiology, medical oncology, surgical oncology, reconstruction, etc.)
Session 1 – Caring for Our Bodies (nutrition, exercise, family genetics, coping with emotional stress, sexuality, etc.)
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Exhibits/Intermission (Silent auction closes at 11:00 a.m.)
11:00 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. Session 2 – Meet the Experts; Session 2 – Caring for Our Bodies
12:05 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Guest speaker: Laughter is the Best Medicine
12:30 p.m. – 12:40 p.m. Closing remarks
12:40 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Silent auction winners claim winnings.

More than 500 attend this free symposium annually.

You may have noticed some construction along San Jose Boulevard lately, especially as you drive along Julington Road at Mandarin Road.

First Coast Oncology will be the first private practice in the world to offer Proton Therapy, one of the most precise and advanced forms of radiation treatment available today. Construction for the new addition began at the end of May 2012 and First Coast Oncology expects to start treating patients in 2014.

Proton Equipment Arrives at First Coast Oncology

You may have noticed some construction along San Jose Boulevard lately, especially as you drive along Julington Road at Mandarin Road.

First Coast Oncology will be the first private practice in the world to offer Proton Therapy, one of the most precise and advanced forms of radiation treatment available today. Construction for the new addition began at the end of May 2012 and First Coast Oncology expects to start treating patients in 2014.

Proton Therapy Center Opening 2014

First Coast Oncology
10881 San Jose Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
904.880.5522
Scot Ackerman, MD
Ryan Perkins, MD
Paul Ossi, MD

FirstCoastOncology.com

Enjoy Wonderful Birds All Times of the Year

www.wbu.com/jacksonville

Experience Bird watching in your yard. Let us help you set up a Bird feeding habitat today.

450 State Road 13 at Black Beak Nest to Public

www.wbu.com/jacksonville

Special guests Gwen Templeton and Roz McCoy
Jacksonville Zoo announces Jaguar cub naming contest

The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and Jacksonville Jaguars are excited to announce a naming contest for the Zoo’s new baby Jaguar cub who shares his birthday with Jaguars owner Shad Khan.

With all of Northeast Florida eagerly awaiting the start of the Jags season and the Zoo’s 100-Year Anniversary Celebration, we felt this was the perfect opportunity to involve the entire community,” said Tony Vecchio, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens executive director. “We look at this as more than a mascot for the Jags and for the Zoo. We’d like to think of him as the City of Jacksonville’s mascot.”

Based on the general feedback of name suggestions from Jaguars fans, people will have the option to vote on the following five names: Khan, Shad, Leon, the option to vote on the following five names: Khan, Shad, Leon, and the City of Jacksonville’s mascot.

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens shares his birthday with Jaguars owner Shad Khan. Jaguars fans, people will have the opportunity to involve the entire community with naming contest for the Zoo’s new baby Jaguar cub who shares his birthday with Jaguars owner Shad Khan.

The display screen set up in the Temple will provide our guests the same camera-view our keepers have to monitor the cub’s initial development,” said Sheryl Stadleen, supervisor of mammals at Jacksonville Zoo. “This footage is not normally available to the public and is a great behind-the-scenes sneak preview!”

Saint Philip Neri Ecumenical Church and Saint Francis Animal Hospital will host a Family Pet Fair on Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at St. Philip Neri Ecumenical Church, located at 4950 Cypress Green Park Drive in Jacksonville. Bring your family pet and come out to enjoy food, vendors and festivities. There will be a $5 charity dog wash and a professional dog trainer will be on hand to answer questions about dog training. Saint Francis Animal Hospital will have a technician available for free doggie nail trims. Finally, at noon there will be a blessing of the pets with the Reverend John Oliver. All pets are welcome — please ensure that dogs are on a leash and cats are in carriers.

One of the main attractions during the Pet Fair will be the display screen set up in the Temple. The display screen will allow our guests the same camera-view our keepers have to monitor the cub’s initial development. The cub’s name will be known by the end of October.

Christine Benham REALTOR®
Watson Realty Corp.
12710 San Jose Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
Office: (904) 268-3300
Cell: (904) 312-1541
Fax: (904) 268-4404
chbenham@WatsonRealtyCorp.com
www.chbenham.WatsonRealtyCorp.com

Thrills and spills white water rafting in Columbus

Twelve years ago the Chattahoochee River and the city of Columbus were in need of urban renewal, but the private and public sectors worked together to change the tide-literally. Today, the city boasts the longest urban white water course in the world.

I recently investigated some of the 15-mile Columbus RiverWalk in the morning—a place where folks stroll, exercise, bike and fish. When we got down to the area with rock-studded “big water” I nearly changed my mind. Recent rains have swollen the river and the water truly rushes along. This gnarly section of class 4 rapids looked more powerful than I could handle.

However, when 1:30 came and it was time to don on a life jacket and helmet, I wasn’t about to let this opportunity slip by. Casey, my raft guide, was confident and couldn’t wait to give my foursome an exciting adventure. After a general group briefing, we hopped into the van along with our oars and were driven to the loading zone. No sooner did we enter the Chattahoochee River than we encountered our first series of rapids.

“Dig,” hollered Casey and the four rafters on board attempted to stroke together. The splash and spray of the river felt exhilarating as we entered the Chattahoochee River. In Columbus, we have been conditioned to think of as a rural adventure coming out in order to get to a more urban adventure. In Columbus, the adventure waits just outside your hotel or restaurant of choice.

For information: www.visitcolumbusga.com

For information: www.visitcolumbusga.com

Pet Fair is coming soon

Saint Philip Neri Ecumenical Church and Saint Francis Animal Hospital will host a Family Pet Fair on Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Ecumenical Church, located at 4950 Cypress Green Park Drive in Jacksonville. Bring your family pet and come out to enjoy food, vendors and festivities. There will be a $5 charity dog wash and a professional dog trainer will be on hand to answer questions about dog training. Saint Francis Animal Hospital will have a technician available for free doggie nail trims. Finally, at noon there will be a blessing of the pets with the Reverend John Oliver. All pets are welcome — please ensure that dogs are on a leash and cats are in carriers.

Started in 2008 by St. Philip Neri Ecumenical Church members, the St. Philip Neri Animal Ministry raises money to help pay for medical care for pets in need. People and pets of every faith are always welcome at St. Philip Neri. For more information, please visit www.nerichurch.org.

St. Francis Animal Hospital is a not-for-profit veterinary hospital conveniently located in San Marco. Founded in 2001 by Dr. Marcia and veterinarian Dr. Susan Green Shetland, St. Francis Animal Hospital’s mission is to provide veterinary care to all owned pets in the Jacksonville area. In support of their mission, St. Francis Animal Hospital treats every patient with compassion, providing quality and comprehensive care that protects the special bond that exists between people and their pets. For so long, it has been the philosophy of some veterinarians—and even some pet owners—that if you can’t afford to care for an animal, you shouldn’t have a pet. As community leader Shad Khan, it is an insult to this theory, as it is flawed.

St. Francis Animal Hospital believes everyone deserves the unconditional love of a happy and healthy pet and all pets deserve to be in a loving home. Furthermore, St. Francis Animal Hospital believes it is not right to let an animal suffer with less than ideal treatment because their owner can’t afford to pay. This is why it is a priority for St. Francis Animal Hospital veterinarians to provide the same level of care to pets of all families over making a profit. Through their dedicated work and support from donors, St. Francis is keeping pets healthy and helping families keep their pets in their homes and out of local animal shelters.
Microwave Women’s Club stay busy, busy, with Anita about this year’s theme, “Anita three grown children and one difference. Adelson is mother of Adelson joined the Gala committee so that she could make a Garden recovering from surgery, and have made Jack- sonville their home. While raising their three won- derful children, Rothstein has served as a board member for a number of both Jewish and non-Jewish organi- zations. Rothstein, an RN, has owned and managed businesses over the years and currently is the practice administrator in her husband’s medical practice. Known for being organized, Rothstein’s enthusiasm is gal- vanizing. She is having a great time with Adelson planning this year’s fabulous gala.

Adelson and her husband Dr. Tony Adelson moved to Jacksonville four years ago and have made many new friends in a short period of time. After her mom had a stent at River Garden recovering from surgery, Adelson joined the Gala commit- tee so that she could make a difference. Adelson is mother of three grown children and one grandson. She is a native of Detroit and is especially excited about this year’s theme, “Anita and her Motown Review.” Anita will be entertaining at the Gala with a group of nine including a horn section and another female vocalist. Anita has recorded and toured with Cameo, as a Supreme, as a featured vocalist with Peabo Bryson and finally with Celine Dion. She received a gold album for background vocals on Cameo’s Alligator Woman Album. Motown was never this hot!

The community is invited to attend this fun-filled evening of music, dinner and dancing, to be held on November 16 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Resort in World Golf Village. We are pleased to have SunTrust Bank again as our premier sponsor. For tickets and reservations, please call Michelle Branyeat at 866-8431 or via email at MBranley@rvgarden.com. We hope you will be able to attend but if you can’t and would still like to do- nate to River Garden, please call Michelle for information.

Fifteen million Americans have Age-Related Macular Degeneration (ARMD), a slow, deterioration and loss of one’s central vision. Clay Eye Physi- cians and Surgeons have been selected as the only center in Northeast Florida to perform a new surgical procedure to help improve central vision in patients with end-stage ARMD. This procedure involves surgically placing a mini- ture telescope in one eye that magnifies images, allowing macular degeneration patients to see magnified images in their central vision, while the non- telescope eye would continue to see peripheral images.

Russell Pecoraro, M.D., Board Certified Ophthalmologist and Retina and Macular De- generation Specialist says, “Age Related Macular Degeneration is the leading cause of vision loss in our senior population. The fact that a new FDA approved device allows these patients the opportunity to see more clearly, is very exciting.”

Donald Downer, M.D., Cornea and Cataract Surgeon, and the lead surgeon for the implant states, “A lot of work goes into screening and select- ing the appropriate patients for this surgery. Prior to surgery, patients undergo extensive therapy, which trains their eye to use a telescopic magnifier. They will also work with a low vision specialist to help adapt to their new world.” This device is approved by Medicare for implantation.

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin News- Line!
Mandarin Garden Club news

By Contributing Writer Susan Westerman, Mandarin Garden Club

September Meetings
Bumblebee Circle (kids five years and up): September 11 at 4:00 p.m. Topic: Design and plant individual garden in the Bumblebee section on the Mandarin Garden Club grounds. Reservations required for first-time attendees and a list of planting supplies to bring. Email info@mandariningardenclub.org or call 268-1192.

Magnolia Circle: September 12 at 10:00 a.m. Topic: Using Color in Your Garden. Flower Beds and Borders with Master Gardener Becky Raths. No reservation required.

Dogwood Circle: September 17 at 10:00 a.m. Topic: We’ve Got Talent! Get To Know Each Other. Bring a photo of yourself to share. No reservation required.

Live Oak Circle: September 22 at 7:00 p.m. Topic: Identifying Pests/Beneficial Nematodes with Dr. Linda Sylvestre. No reservation required.

September is the perfect time to join the Mandarin Garden Club. This month the five different circles are starting up the new club season at the clubhouse at 2892 Loretto Road. All gardening enthusiasts from beginner to expert are welcome. Visitors are welcome to attend meetings to try the club. Annual membership dues are only $35 individually/$50 couple/$5 per child with paid individual adult membership for women and men who work during the day the Live Oak Circle has meetings in the evenings. Cherokee Rose, Dogwood and Magnolia Circles meet during the day the Live Oak Clubs meet, sharing about the plants they brought, sharing gardening knowledge and catching up on the latest in everyone’s gardens. See more pictures from the event and get recipes that attendees enjoyed refreshments made with ingredients from the garden and recipes to take home. Even better than all the new plants and garden stuff was the great fun all participants had talking about the plants they brought, sharing gardening knowledge and catching up on the latest in everyone’s gardens. See more pictures from the event and get recipes that were served at www.mandariningardenclub.org then click Blog and Gallery.

A few months ago the Mandarin Garden Club started a Facebook page. This has turned into a forum for showing off the best of what is currently blooming in Mandarin gardens and timely gardening helpful hints. Learn about what’s going on in Mandarin gardens on the Mandarin Garden Club’s Facebook page.

The Mandarin Garden Club’s third annual Plant Exchange on July 20 was a great success. Members from all circles participated in 10 rounds of swapping wonderful plants and miscellaneous garden stuff. Also invited were the Mandarin Demonstration Garden Master Gardeners and Jacksonville V.I.G.s (very important gardeners). The V.I.G.s were: Linda O. Cunningham, local herb expert featured on Facebook; Linda Jones, local garden blogger http://shoetrends.ruralnote.wordpress.com; Janese Warner, local expert gardener; and Tatayana Voyenberg, retired from Trad’s Garden Center. This event was a fantastic way to get new and interesting plants for free. Garden books, magazines, tools, garden art and ceramic pots were also swapped. Attendees enjoyed refreshments made with ingredients from the garden and recipes to take home. Even better than all the new plants and garden stuff was the great fun all participants had talking about the plants they brought, sharing gardening knowledge and catching up on the latest in everyone’s gardens. See more pictures from the event and get recipes that were served at www.mandariningardenclub.org then click Blog and Gallery.

A few months ago the Mandarin Garden Club started a Facebook page.

The Mandarin Garden Club—see our website, www.mandariningardenclub.org or call 268-1192. Everyone is welcome to join the Mandarin Garden Club. Your future gardening friends are waiting for you to join them at the fun and relaxed Mandarin Garden Club!!

The MOMS Club gets fit!

The summer months, busy vacation schedules and a lack of routine can often contribute to adding on pounds. Members of the MOMS club of Jacksonville/Mandarin-SE held its most recent “Mom’s Night Out” at the Mandarin location of Fitness Together to see first hand what it takes to get healthy and back in shape.

Fitness Together owner, Colin Woodmansee hosted the group, showcasing healthy eating and how MOMS Club member Amanda Stalford lost nearly 70 pounds after her second pregnancy. “I look forward to continuing my journey toward better health,” said Stalford. “I thank everyone at Fitness Together who was a part of my success and Colin for bringing out my inner warrior princess!”

The other moms in Stalford’s group were so impressed with her success, they let her plan the night out and show some of the exercises that have gotten her in such great shape.

The MOMS Club of Jacksonville/Mandarin-SE is lead by and comprised of approximately 40 stay-at-home moms, working from-home moms and part-time working moms. Mandarin Fitness Together owner Woodmansee says he was excited to host the group. The fact that they provide support to each other is exactly what he believes is the recipe for success when it comes to keeping healthy.

“The best part of Stafford’s success is that she didn’t go it alone,” said Woodmansee. “The group training that we have at Fitness Together is a great way to have support and a plan to achieve whatever challenge, moms or anyone else sets for themselves.”

Stafford is looking forward to having some moms from her group join her in her workouts. She just recently moved to another SK where she placed first in her age group and 31st overall!

Be sure to see their ad in this issue of Mandarin NewsLine!
Football aplenty in September
By Chad Cushnir

Training camp is over, the preseason is over and now the games count. The Jaguars begin the 2013 regular season with a home game against the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday, September 8 at 1:00 p.m. This matchup features the two teams with the worst records from a year ago. Both the Jaguars and Chiefs had a 2-14 record in 2012 and now both teams have new head coaches and new general managers.

After the game against Kansas City, the Jaguars will be spending a couple weeks on the west coast. First up is a visit to Oakland on September 15, then instead of flying home to Jacksonville after the game, the Jaguars will stay on the west coast for the following week until their game at Seattle on September 22. The Jaguars will conclude the month of September with a home game against the Colts on September 29.

In college football, after the University of Florida’s season opener vs. Toledo on August 31, the Gators travel to the University of Miami for a noon kickoff on Saturday, September 7. They’ll get a week off after that game and will conclude the month with a home game against Tennessee on September 21 and a trip to Kentucky on September 28.

Florida State begins its season on Labor Day with a prime time matchup against ACC newcomer Pittsburgh at Heinz Field. The Seminoles’ next two games will be at home against Nevada (September 14) and Bethune-Cookman (September 21). They’ll wrap up the month with a visit to Boston College on September 28.

Finally, the JU Dolphins begin their season with a pair of games on the road. They visit the University of Delaware on August 29 and Jacksonville State on September 7. They will then have three consecutive home games to finish out the month. JU hosts Morehead State on September 14, Warner University on September 21 and Butler on September 28.

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

With summer still very much with us, it nevertheless is time to begin planting a fall garden. If you enjoy sowing seeds, in September you have plenty to choose from: bush or pole beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, collards, cucumbers, endive/escarole, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onions, both bulb and bunching, shallots, leeks, summer squash and turnips.

The Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide is invaluable: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh020. For instance, you can plant your crops in succession, following the guide, to extend your harvest through to spring. If you don’t have access to the internet, call the Extension Service at 355-7450, from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 noon or from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and ask to speak to a Master Gardener. They will be glad to mail you a copy.

Check the guide for good varieties for our area (north Florida) and which vegetables are best sown directly where they are to be grown. Not all of them can be transplanted successfully. Others like the brassicas (broccoli, kale, collards, etc.) transplant very easily and can be sown in small pots or seed trays, where it is easier to control watering and exposure to sun while the seedlings are still fragile.

Certain herbs do well here in the cooler months, so if you have a culinary bent check out “Herbs in the Florida Garden” (http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh020). It covers most of the more common herbs as well as more unusual ones like anise and lovage. A printed version is also available from the Extension Service.

For a successful vegetable garden, choose an area with at least six hours of sunshine a day. Sandy soils particularly benefit from the addition of home-made or purchased compost and well-rotted manure. If your garden doesn’t drain quickly after heavy rains, build raised beds, either contained in a frame or simply heaped up. It possible choose a different site. Whatever the length of your bed, it should be no more than four feet wide to allow you to work from either side without stepping into it. For larger gardens a hill and furrow system would work well.

To encourage bees to pollinate your crops, there are fall-flowering perennials which will attract them. Dill or daisy-like flowers are ideal, as are trumpet shaped flowers like salvias. Avoid fancy double blossoms as they don’t contain much nectar and the bees won’t be interested. If your garden is near your home, why not border it with some flowers and mixed herbs to add color and interest to the view?

Vegetable gardening can be very satisfying, but don’t despair if you don’t get bumper crops. Having worked a garden for several years I find some crops more successful than others and it’s not always the same from year to year. Build up your soil so it can be used for the entire season and to minimize soil splashing onto leaves. Have fun and eat those vegetables young, tender and fresh!
The Vandroff Art Gallery is located at the Jewish Community Alliance, located at 8505 San Jose Boulevard.

For more information, please call 730-200 or email Thelma Nied at thelma.nied@jacksonville.org.

The Vandroff Art Gallery is located at the Jewish Community Alliance, located at 8505 San Jose Boulevard.

Dr. Robert Delcamp, Professor of Music and University Organist at the University of the South (Sewanee) will present a free organ recital at St. John's Cathedral, located at 256 East Church Street in downtown Jacksonville, on Friday, September 6 at 7:30 p.m. Music includes selections by Gigout, Franck and Guilmant. Everyone is invited. For further information, please call 356-5547.

Congregation Ahavath Chesed, the Temple, located at 8727 San Jose Boulevard, held a back-to-school drive in August. The drive resulted in providing much needed school supplies to children in the Child Welfare, Prevention, Foster Care and Adoptees for Life Programs at Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS). The drive was coordinated by Cara Jackson and Hallie Witt, both 13-year-old students wanting to get involved with a community project. The Temple will also be holding a food drive to benefit the Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry at JFCS. Non-perishable food items can be brought to the location as well during the first two weeks of September. For more information, please call JFCS at 448-1933 or the Temple at 733-7078.

LifeTree Cafe is like a book club without the need to read a book. Everyone you needed for an hour of interesting, lively stimulating conversation is here, except for you. We meet for weekly for conversations about life and faith in a casual coffee-house-type setting. The discussion topics in September are: September 3 and 4, “Children With No Place To Call Home” – Exploring children in crisis; September 10 and 11, “The Art Of Loss” – A LifeTree Classic discusses the loss of a loved one; September 17 and 18, “Religious Freedom” – Standing Up For What You Believe.; and September 24 and 25, “Acts of Finding Contentment” – Live A Satisfying Life. LifeTree Cafe is held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Mandarin Senior Center, located at 3848 Hartley Road in Jacksonville. Please call 730-0731 or Hope Lutheran Church (open to everyone), located at 3000 Cypress Point Parkway in Mandarin. LifeTree is free. Find out more about topics and location from the www.MandarinNH.com calendar entry or call George Treiber at 731-0731.

San Juan del Rio Catholic Church will be hosting the nine-week Financial Peace University class starting Monday, September 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ever wish you could pay down debt? Dave Ramsey’s nine-week financial seminar provides hope, empowerment and brings families closer together. Every participant attends one class; September 14 and 21. The Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry at JFCS. Non-perishable food items can be brought to the location as well during the first two weeks of September. For more information, please call JFCS at 448-1933 or the Temple at 733-7078.

On April 2, 2013, the daily newspaper reported that poverty in Duval County is 14.9 percent, the highest it has been in years. It also reported that more than $4 billion in cuts is proposed in the House for food stamps. What does that mean for those living in Jacksonville? It means that the local food banks are in dire straits and that in order to prevent these statistics from getting drastically worse, everyone must take that extra step to do what we can to help those in need.

Over the past several years, the Jacksonville Jewish Center has been in the forefront with its year-round support of Operation Isaiah, a program sponsored by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

During the High Holiday Service, we read from the book of Isaiah: “It is to share your bread with the hungry and to take the poor into your home…” Then his High Holiday appeal will kick off on September 2 when congregants will receive a shopping bag to take home and fill with non-perishable food items. The drive will continue for the entire month of September. All foods will be donated to the Jewish Family and Community Services food pantry and Second Harvest of Northeast Florida.

Martin and Mimi Kaufman, chairpersons for Operation Isaiah, would like to see us pass last year’s goal of 3,500 pounds and are urging everyone in our community to please participate in this drive and to continue donating foods and toiletries all year. Food donations can be dropped off at the Jacksonville Jewish Center, located at 3662 Crown Point Drive in Mandarin Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the church parking lot and in the front lobby and in the school lobby.

For further information, please call the center at 292-1000.
American Eagle Lawn Care
Quality Services Affordable Rates Licensed & Insured
No Contracts FREE Estimates 502-0891

Call Today for Free Decorative Trimming with Driveaway Job!

C CONCRETE WORKS
Callering to the needs of the homeless: Driveways, Concrete Removal, Patios, Driveway Extension Walkways, Pavers

FREE ESTIMATES 838-1836
Call Today for Free decorative Trim with Driveaway Job!

SNIP’S TREE & STUMP SERVICE
Lawn Maintenance Service
Paul Oklevich
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST
Over 20 Years Exp. FL-5546A LICENCED & INSURED
268-1017 snipstree.com

ANDY ONCALL
Repair and Remodeling — Pricing by the job — not by the hour —
Licenses Bonded Insured
Call about FREE Window Cleaning
213-8701
LC-2852059

FREE ESTIMATES

Janitorial Office Cleaners EXPERIENCED Event Janitorial Office Cleaners Needed. Weeknights and/or Weekends Part-time ONLY Submit application to:
www.environmentcontrol.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Mandarin Newsline would like to know about readers like you! Please participate in this quick online survey so we can keep bringing you the best community newspaper in town.
You can take the survey online at:
www.research.net/s/190276

Or scan the QR Code with your smartphone.
Win & Get Thin!  
RT Publishing and Fitness Together are teaming up to help one lucky winner receive 3 months of PACK Training sessions.

To enter the drawing, please e-mail why you would like to win to contest@MandarinNewsline.com.

Mandarin Apartments
11648 Pine Acres Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
Phone (904) 268-7251

- • Mini Blinds  
  • Stove & Refrigerator  
  • All Electric  
  • Playground

2 Bedroom Townhouses
- Manager on Site
- Rental Assistance
- Rents: $0 to $773

Office Hours
9am-5pm M-F

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."

EVENSON will also be continuing to go on and with band at St. Johns Riverkeeper off ering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll Free 800-725-1865

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."

EVENSON will also be continuing to go on and with band at St. Johns Riverkeeper off ering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll Free 800-725-1865


The health and issues affected by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, a reader who believes he does not have the above classifi ed. Determine if you need advice and a professional can be found by calling 1-800-231-3603

"Taking a Break from Overthinking!" book. You choose from families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Abby’s Adoption Agency.

St. Johns Riverkeeper offers tour of St. Johns River

By Contributing Writer Jimmy Orth, Executive Director, St. Johns Riverkeeper and Murphy’s Island, each lunch on the bluffs of Welaka, travel across the second largest lake in Florida (Lake Victoria), sleep comfortably at a water-front hotel in historic Astor and dining as part of a dressy and Blue Spring State Park.

The speakers on this guided tour include Bill Belleview, the acclaimed author of "River of Lakes: A Journey on Florida’s St. Johns River," documentarist-photographer and co-founder of Friends of the Wekiva, Folk Historian Bill Dreggors, commonly known as Mr. DeLand, will tell stories of growing up in “Old Florida.” Time-travelers Wade and Jane Sims will portray William Bartram, the famous 18th century naturalist and Con-

© 1985 Treweek & Associates, all rights reserved. Readers are hereby informed that the above classifi ed is not to be reproduced without the written consent of the publisher. In order to avoid misunderstandings, a reader who believes he does not have the above classifi ed. Determine if you need advice and a professional can be found by calling 1-800-231-3603

"Taking a Break from Overthinking!" book. You choose from families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Abby’s Adoption Agency.

Mandan Apartments
11648 Pine Acres Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32223
Phone (904) 268-7251

- • Multi Blinds  
  • Stove & Refrigerator  
  • All Electric  
  • Playground

2 Bedroom Townhouses
- Manager on Site
- Rental Assistance
- Rents: $0 to $773

Office Hours
9am-5pm M-F

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."

EVENSON will also be continuing to go on and with band at St. Johns Riverkeeper off ering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll Free 800-725-1865

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."

EVENSON will also be continuing to go on and with band at St. Johns Riverkeeper off ering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll Free 800-725-1865


The health and issues affected by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, a reader who believes he does not have the above classifi ed. Determine if you need advice and a professional can be found by calling 1-800-231-3603

"Taking a Break from Overthinking!" book. You choose from families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Abby’s Adoption Agency.

St. Johns Riverkeeper offers tour of St. Johns River

By Contributing Writer Jimmy Orth, Executive Director, St. Johns Riverkeeper and Murphy’s Island, each lunch on the bluffs of Welaka, travel across the second largest lake in Florida (Lake Victoria), sleep comfortably at a water-front hotel in historic Astor and dining as part of a dressy and Blue Spring State Park.

The speakers on this guided tour include Bill Belleview, the acclaimed author of "River of Lakes: A Journey on Florida’s St. Johns River," documentarist-photographer and co-founder of Friends of the Wekiva, Folk Historian Bill Dreggors, commonly known as Mr. DeLand, will tell stories of growing up in “Old Florida.” Time-travelers Wade and Jane Sims will portray William Bartram, the famous 18th century naturalist and Con-
Back to School for Mandarin High Mustangs!

By Zoe Smolios, MHS Student

Dr. Donna Richardson
School is in session for the students at Mandarin High School and with a new school year comes new changes.

The 2013-2014 school year, which started on Monday, August 19, has a lot of new firsts. The students at the high school will start classes at 7:15 in the morning and end their days at 2:00 in the afternoon, unlike the previous years when the days ran from 7:10 a.m. until 1:45 p.m.

Some other changes are that the school has brought in four new administrators, including a Dean of Students, Joyce Jones, who will deal with student discipline. Also, instead of naming their five houses after street names, such as Greenland, San Jose, St. Johns, St. Augustine and Julian, they will be named after colleges: Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, etc.

All these changes can be somewhat confusing, but Dr. Donna Richardson, the principal of Mandarin High, believes that they will have a positive effect on this school year.

“Our slogan for this year is ‘Inspiring Excellence’ so we’re really pushing on improving our reading and math scores,” said Richardson.

To achieve this goal the school has brought in a tutor to help improve the scores, even though they did improve a lot from previous school years.

MHS will now be offering an SAT and ACT prep class for juniors to prepare them and there will be about five or four new dual enrollment classes at Florida State College at Jacksonville for college credit.

Richardson said, “I believe we will be an A school this year.”

The past two years Mandarin High has been a B school, but the advanced placement has improved by 4 percent, so it will most likely be named an A school this year.

Patriot’s Pen essay competition announced

Scholarship Chairman Patricia McQuaig of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Charles E. Bennett Post 1689 announced the kick-off of this year’s Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary “VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship Competition.” The “VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship Competition” provides a $5,000 award to an outstanding scout who is the recipient of a Boy Scout Eagle Award, a Venture Scout Silver Award, a Sea Scout Quartermaster Award or a Girl Scout who has received her Gold Award.

The deadline to submit entry to Charles E. Bennett Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1689 is March 1, 2014. VFW Post winners advance to Department of Florida Veterans of Foreign Wars. Department of Florida winners are submitted to Veterans of Foreign Wars National.

Interested scouts may visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars website, www.vfw.org, and download the VFW Scouting Scholarship form.

Questions regarding the program may be directed to Patricia McQuaig, Charles E. Bennett Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1689 Jacksonville by phone at 743-6767. For more information, please contact www.vfw.org.

Fall is just around the corner! Register Now for the Best class, day and time.

Our #1 Priority: Your Children! Classes are exciting and motivating!

FREE TRIAL CLASS CALL TODAY!

Additional Programs Available
Great Birthday Parties
Open Gym • Day Camps
We are conveniently located at the corner of I-295 and San Jose Blvd.

Local scout could win $5,000

Scholarship Chairman Patricia McQuaig of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Charles E. Bennett Post 1689 announced the kick-off of this year’s Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary “VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship Competition.” The “VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship Competition” provides a $5,000 award to an outstanding scout who is the recipient of a Boy Scout Eagle Award, a Venture Scout Silver Award, a Sea Scout Quartermaster Award or a Girl Scout who has received her Gold Award.

The deadline to submit entry to Charles E. Bennett Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1689 is March 1, 2014. VFW Post winners advance to Department of Florida Veterans of Foreign Wars.
MHS Sports Roundup

MHS cross country teams prepare for the fall season

By Hazel Odell, MHS Student

The Mandarin High School boys’ and girls’ cross country athletes have been training hard all summer and have high expectations for the fall season. Beginning in May, the cross country girls have been following a rigorous training schedule, meeting up to six days per week and often running up to eight miles during a workout.

“The practices were something very very important to be at,” said sophomore Antia Grzeszczak.

Once school starts, they will be meeting daily after school and Saturdays.

In July, the girls attended a week-long training camp in Georgia, where they increased endurance and strengthened team bonds.

With the new school year comes a new coach for the girls’ cross country team. Their previous coach, Hope Treece, is moving due to her husband’s job. Replacing her will be Sidney Forrest, a Spanish teacher at MHS. Forrest was the junior varsity cheerleading coach at MHS last year. Despite this change, the girls are still confident in their team.

“This season, our Lady Mustangs XC team will be the strongest and most powerful it has ever been,” said Grzeszczak. She goes on to add that they run with no regrets.

Junior Julianna Favale said, “I think we are going to do really well this year! We have a lot of returning talent coming back and a lot of new runners that have shown a lot of talent.”

“This year we’ve been ranked first in the region of death, third for the 4A division at states and 18th in all of Florida,” said Grzeszczak. “These rankings are such an honor and bring so much joy to us, for we know that all our hard work is paying off.”

Also beginning in May, the cross country boys have been meeting every day of the week except for Sunday, when they run on their own. They run nine to 10 miles each day, depending on the workout.

Sophomore Michael Cassette hopes that they will make it to the state level as a team this year, just like they did last year.

“To prepare we’ve been training all summer, with our full dedication,” said Cassette.

The boys were ranked ninth in the state last year, according to fl.milesplit.com. They were conference champions, district champions, regional runners-up and state runners-up last cross country season.

Cross country is a fall sport consisting of 5,000 meter or 3.1-mile races. Unlike track, which is run around a track, athletes run over grass, mud, wood and more in cross country races. Seven athletes from each team compete in a varsity race and the placing of the top five team-members are added together to make the team’s overall score. The team with the lowest score wins.

The teams will attend their first meet of the school year, the Spikes and Spurs Classic, on August 31. It will be held at the Flagler County Fairgrounds in Bunnell, Florida. Eight other high schools will also be competing.

More information about upcoming meets can be found at fl.milesplit.com/teams/MAND/schedule.

Come experience the start of something wonderful.

Spend the day at Bolles, and discover a wonderful place for your child. Bolles provides the education, experiences and connections for your child to achieve amazing accomplishments in life. Join us for an Open House, and see for yourself the smaller class sizes with exceptional teachers, the state of the art classrooms and advanced curriculum, and the positive learning environment with grade-specific campuses. Bolles is a world leading to great opportunities.

Join us for an Open House, and start something wonderful for your child… only at Bolles.

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.,
Wednesday, October 2
Whitehurst Campus
San Jose
Pre-K—Grade 5

For more information on a Bolles education and to reserve your space at our Open House, please visit www.BollesSuccessKit.org or call (904) 256-5030.

Day and Boarding School from Pre-K through Grade 12.

Back to School Guide

Go Back to School with Mandarin NewsLine!
Be sure to patronize our advertisers!
Fall classes just began. Registration continues.

Visit our Website for Schedules & Forms
www.markspivak.com

School launches young learners program

Since 1950, San Jose Episcopal Day School has strived to educate the whole child—mind, body and spirit. Young children are naturally curious and eager to investigate their environment. At San Jose Episcopal Day School (SJEDS), their goal is to provide a stimulating, positive and secure environment in which the children’s natural enthusiasm for solving problems, gaining new insights and refining concepts will be fostered. The school’s young children develop spiritually, socially, emotionally, intellectually, creatively and physically. Collectively, the Pre-K3 through kindergarten classes are named San Jose Episcopal Day School’s Early Explorers Program.

The classroom environment allows students to investigate their world while learning skills in language arts, math, social studies and science. Students also participate in music, Spanish, library, physical education and religious education through drama (Kingdom Theatre) classes. SJEDS’ character education program, Keys to the Kingdom, is interwoven throughout the day with all that is taught and experienced. The San Jose Episcopal Day School global studies program provides students the opportunity to experience the culture of different countries around the world. The weekly chapel service, designed for this specific age group, teaches the children the power of God’s love through scripture lessons, songs and active student participation.

The school encourages children to think and work both collaboratively and independently, as well as engage in tasks that motivate and challenge. Within the curriculum, the children engage in direct experiences with opportunities to review, reflect and discuss what they’ve learned. The school’s young learners program provides students the opportunity to experience the
Time to sign up your child for Native Sons and Daughters

Fathers, do you have too much to do, not enough time in the day to do it or would you like to spend more quality time with your children? If you answered “yes,” then read on as the Timucuan Federation chapter of the Native Sons and Daughters program is organizing new tribes in southern Duval County and northern St. Johns County.

The Native Sons and Daughters program (formerly known as Indian Princess/Indian Guides) offers a wide variety of events for Father/Child interaction and is meant for children ages five to 12. Not only do the children learn about Native American history and traditions, but also have the opportunity to participate in events such as tubing, canoeing, costume bowling, camping, ice skating, attending a Jaguars football game and even walking in the Gator Bowl parade.

Our annual City Wide Pow Wow is being held on Saturday, October 5 at the Owens Family Farm off of Interstate 95, exit 180 in Yulee. During this event there will be a wide variety of games for the children and exotic animals to see. Join an existing tribe or bring along your child’s friends, classmates or teammates and create your own tribe and build memories that will last for a lifetime.

For more information, please review our website at www.timucuan.org.
Students arrived at all four Bolles campuses on August 20 with big smiles and full backpacks to ring in their first day of the 2013-14 school year. Seniors on the Bolles Upper School San Jose Campus started off with the traditional off-campus Senior Breakfast, donning black dresses and tiaras, black ties and pants (with big smiles and full backpacks to ring in their first day of school and stayed to enjoy post-drop-off “Coffee and Kerchiefs” receptions. Planned for Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade on both lower school campuses. "The excitement here today is rejuvenating, I am thrilled to be a part of the 2013-14 school year," Johnson said. "Students and faculty on all four campuses seem happy to be back, that says so much about the appeal of our Bolles community.

On the Bolles Lower School Whitehurst and Ponte Vedra Beach Campuses, it was a flurry of new school action as parents delivered their students to school and stayed to enjoy post-drop-off “Coffee and Kerchiefs” receptions. Planned for Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade parents, the welcome gatherings of mild disbelief that their children were growing up, parents felt confident and happy their students made such successful transitions back into the classroom on their first day. The Bolles Parent Association hosted the events on both lower school campuses. "The Bolles Parent Association hosted the events on both lower school campuses."

On the Bolles Middle School Bartram Campus, students enjoyed checking out the newly renovated campus bookstore and getting re-acclimated to their school schedules. WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) leaders helped sixth-graders and other new students feel welcome on their first day.
There's no need to search all over town for a great rate. Just come to VyStar.

When you get an auto loan or refinance a non-VyStar auto loan, you'll get rates as low as 1.35% APR for 24 months, 1.75% APR for 36 months, or 1.99% APR for 60 months. With rates that low, financing or refinancing a new or used vehicle hasn't been this economical since the 50s. There are no hidden fees. And no surprises. So look no further. Just drive on in to any of our convenient locations or 100+ dealership partners, call, or visit vystarcu.org to apply today.

Qualified rate good on new or used vehicles 2006 or later. *Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is current as of June 1, 2013 and subject to change. Actual rate may vary and is based on an evaluation of the individual’s credit history. All rates and terms are subject to change and certain restrictions may apply. ©2013 VyStar Credit Union.

VYSTAR MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO EVERYONE WHO LIVES OR WORKS IN NORTHEAST FLORIDA