



FLEET BEAT

VOL. 31 No. 7

THE FLEET LANDING RESIDENTS' NEWSPAPER

Aug./Sept. 2021

MOAA Town Hall

By Chet Davis



Left: Ellen Glasser and Bob Burkart.
Right: Glasser was an animated speaker.



Left: Evidence of the cement mishap.

Right: Glasser demonstrates the Tik Tok Oreo challenge.

Members of the Military Officers of America Association (MOAA) and Fleet Landing residents attended the third in the MOAA-sponsored Town Hall series that has presented US Representative John Rutherford and Jacksonville City Councilman Rory Diamond. The September 28 iteration featured Atlantic Beach Mayor Ellen Glasser.

As is customary, the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Residents' Council President Bob Burkart, subbing for MOAA's Historic Mayport Chapter President Pat Kluever, who was traveling, gave introductory remarks. He reported a mishap that occurred just before the start of the meeting: When Glasser wanted to retrieve something from her car, he directed her through a side door of Johnson Hall, that, unbeknown to him, led to wet cement. Glasser showed herself to be a good sport about the incident. She further displayed her sense of humor, demonstrating the first part of the Tik Tok challenge recently indulged in at City Hall. It involves moving an Oreo cookie from the forehead to the mouth without using one's hands.

Glasser provided her views of the status of the city and some of her forward-looking concepts she hopes will
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Summer Concert Finale: Mama Blue

By Isobel Spink



Mama Blue had us all in the palm of her hand on September 10 in Johnson Hall as she belted out "His Name is King," "Son of a Preacher Man," Aretha Franklin's "Natural Woman," "Stand by Me" and other great songs. Her attitude and ingenuity on stage made her one with the audience, and she was a tremendous addition to the wonderful concerts Mary Faria, Manager Wellness Services, has arranged for Fleet Landing.

Mama grew up in Jacksonville and is well known in this area. Born Sarah Sanders, she attended the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, then Jacksonville University, majoring in vocal and drama. Growing up singing with her grandmother, Mama has performed in musicals at The Alhambra Theater, Players by The Sea, and in blues festivals around the country. With her Army husband and two boys, Mama spent time in Europe, and she now teaches music to children at JAMS (Jacksonville Arts & Music School).

Mama and her energetic and talented four-piece band treated the audience to jazz, blues, and gospel, filled with joy and, at times, with sadness, as in her homage to lost friends. The keyboard player was having the time of his life and couldn't stop grinning.

Between songs, and after she ditched her platform shoes, the barefoot Mama strolled through the audience
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September Residents' Council Meeting

By Howard Burdick

The September 21 Residents' Council meeting was convened in Johnson Hall by President Bob Burkart. After recognizing newcomers, he reminded us of the approaching Red Kettle Campaign for the Salvation Army. Last year, our ringers were the top collectors in Duval County, with \$19,000 in cash and a \$6,000 diamond ring. Ruth and Lin Smith will chair this year's effort.

Management Review. Executive Director Josh Ashby reviewed the status of current and planned projects, including road repair between Leeward Manor and Windward Commons, punch list items for the new construction, sidewalks from North Point, and the croquet court resurfacing. Material and labor shortages are delaying the Coleman Center renovations, but the permit applications have been submitted. The second floor bathroom work may start this year, but the rest will be delayed until 2022.

Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer reported that Fleet Landing is working with Walgreens on dates for the COVID-19 vaccine booster clinics. He announced that employees Shari Townsend and Sarah Day had left, and he introduced Carl Helmers, the new Manager of Plant Operations. The hardware in our new Wi-Fi system is functioning properly, but there are programming problems. Staff member Wayne Willard is in training to provide on-site resident tech support. A charging station for electric vehicles has been installed in the Windward Commons parking lot. A new Fleet Landing commercial is airing on major channels.

Council Reports.

Finance. Treasurer Bob Armacost presented a review of solid finances, even without inclusion of federal government-supplied COVID-19 relief funds. Those funds are being held separately to cover pandemic-related expenses. Cash on hand is well above budget and requirements. Details may be reviewed in the Dinda Library. Fleet Landing's investment portfolio of about \$48 million has averaged 5.93 percent year-to-date growth, and our Endowment Fund of \$2.2 million, 8.21 percent. Armacost reviewed details of the Resident Gift Fund: who is eligible, how to donate, suggested amounts (\$1,000 to \$2,000 per person, but any amount is welcome). Because of an anticipated 10 percent increase in employee hours, the goal has been raised from \$500,000 in 2020 to \$550,000 for 2021.

Marketing. Council Vice President Eileen This reported continued essentially full independent living occupancy in our original campus. The 8000 Building is almost entirely reserved and about half occupied. Vacancies in assisted living number seven in Leeward Manor and twelve in North Point. She reminded us that there are two respite rooms for temporary resident occupancy in each assisted living facility. The Nancy House is essentially at full occupancy.

Wellness. Jackie Mears reminded residents of the many ways to keep informed about our wealth of activities: the printed calendar, Fleet Link, the event board in the Coleman Center, "News & Notes," and FNN.

Human Resources and Dining. Ray Bratcher reported a bumper crop of 203 Lobster Tales in August. The Staff Member of the Month for July was Lucas Wallace, who has been our only painter for several months—and who pitches in to help others on top of that. Your reporter has been personally impressed with his attitude of service. The total number of staff is 483, with a year-to-date turnover rate of 29.8 percent. Bratcher noted a continuing delay in opening 30 North fine dining because of staffing issues. He also discussed the favorable reception of changes to LakeView and Currents menus, reduction of meal delivery service to once daily because of budget and staffing constraints, reestablishment of the community table in LakeView, and wine tasting events.

Health. Janice Flock discussed expiration dates on foods and medicines, noting most are safe well beyond these dates with the application of a little common sense. Medicines no longer needed can be taken to Walgreens for disposal. She reminded residents to take the full course of a prescribed antibiotic. Stopping just because you feel better can result in a return of the illness.

Facilities. Lory Doolittle reviewed recent zone inspections of all original apartment buildings, the 5800 block, Windward Commons, manor homes, and the campus perimeter with the help of resident representatives. Power washing, rust removal, gutter and roof cleaning will be scheduled on a regular rotating basis. Four residents of the 8000 Building have been elected to serve a three-year term as representatives for their building. Doolittle also asked residents to be patient as Plant Operations deals with staff and material shortages,

(continued on next page)

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Chet Davis (Roving Reporter)

All the news that fits...

Contributions to FLEET BEAT are welcome. Please place copy or any comments you may have in box 1107 at the Coleman Center. Neither letters to the editor nor anonymous submissions are published but we are, of course, mindful of your comments. Issues of FLEET BEAT can be found at www.fleetlanding.com. Sign into the resident portal and click on "Menu" and then "Publications." Issues can also be found under "Publications" on Fleet Link. A complete run of back issues can be found in the Dinda Library.

September Residents' Council Meeting

(continued from preceding page)

and she asked them to be sure to thank maintenance staff for their help.

Safety and Security and Housekeeping. Theis reported for Kerstin Chelius, noting Safety and Security performance of 338 house checks and responses to 46 incidents in August. All Safety and Security staff are currently being re-certified for CPR, and the number of staff will be increased to 14. All were reminded to use the visitor pass system email (visitor@fleetlanding.com) or phone (904-246-7144). Theis also reported that the responsibilities of the Environmental Services division of Housekeeping included cleaning 88 assisted living units, The Nancy House, and Derfer Pavilion as well as all laundry (about 6,000 pounds daily).

Communications and Suggestions. Secretary Nancy Russell explained where residents could find information about the abbreviations used on the calendar and how to set filters in Calendar Central.

Approved resident suggestions, some of which have already been implemented, included the following:

- Set Neville clock accurately.
- Provide safe footing between the eating area and the walkway outside Currents Marketplace.
- Stop offering plastic water bottles at Windward Commons.
- Clean the dirty walkways between the Coleman Center and the 3000 Building.
- Provide outside trash bins for animal waste by the 8000 building.
- Add more chairs in Meridian Lounge.
- Indicate the day of the week with the date of events.

Suggestions not deemed feasible or necessary included the following:

- Turn off Fleet Link notices of mail arrival.
- Paint curb cutout at Currents Marketplace.
- Add more trash rooms to the 8000 Building.
- Add a landscaped "Welcome Home" sign before the Welcome Center.
- Allow Currents food to be ordered from Meridian Lounge.

Suggestions with responses requiring more explanation:

- Add a resident by address section to the Directory. Fleet Link has a search function by unit number. The entire Directory can be downloaded to an Excel file, which can then be sorted by unit number. The Concierge also has this sorted list available and can provide it on an as-needed basis.

Meridian acoustics and music are incompatible when the lounge is busy. Baffling will be added, and scheduling of entertainment will be modified.

- Send an email when monthly bills have been delivered. This information is included in "News & Notes" and posted on Fleet Link
- Add less exotic items to Meridian Lounge. This will

be considered at the next menu change.

- Have Residents' Council members act as ombudsmen for owners of service animals. This is an administration function, and expanded information will be provided in the new edition of the Resident Handbook, which will be issued soon.

- Provide coffee in Windward Commons. Coffee is available in Currents, and will be available in the Coffee Shop when it can be reopened.

Suggestions with response pending:

- Add phone extension for Currents specials.
- Require contractor workers coming in contact with residents and patients at Fleet Landing be required to show proof of vaccination similar to what we received from Walgreens.
- Request the status and disposition of maintenance requests to be available on Fleet Link or a detailed explanation of the work that was done to resolve the issue sent to residents.

The next meeting will be on October 19 at 2 pm.

Editor's note: Council minutes and member reports can be found in the Dinda Library.

September Board of Directors Meeting

By Enith Vardaman

The September 28 meeting was held in closed session, Board President Helen Atter presiding. The information below was supplied to FLEET BEAT by Executive Director Josh Ashby.

The board received a report on a better organization of Fleet Landing and affiliated entities, such as the Fleet Landing Endowment Fund, the Ponte Vedra Pine Company (the Nocatee property), Future Landing (owner of the former Sonic), in a fashion that provides more efficient management of these entities and increased protection for Fleet Landing. This would represent the modern corporate structure for senior living communities.

The Finance Committee reported on year-to-date financial results. The operating budget is performing better than budget when the impact of COVID-19 is removed.

The Finance Committee presented the 2022 operating budget, which excludes the Beacon Pointe expansion project and the COVID-19 impact. The board unanimously approved an increase of 5 percent in independent living monthly fees and 9 percent in healthcare monthly fees. The increase in the latter is a reflection of the extra wage inflation in the healthcare environment. It is a recognition that healthcare expenses are accelerating faster than independent living expenses. The operating budget, which will be presented to residents on October 28, will also include reinstatement of the meal delivery fee.

The Strategic Planning Committee reported on continuing exploration of development opportunities for the property in Nocatee.

Meet Carl Helmers, Plant Operations Manager

By Chet Davis

A Brooklyn, NY, native, Carl Helmers has lived in Jacksonville for over 50 years. His employment over that time span has been in plant operations in the healthcare industry. Helmers has had long experience at Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital, founded by the late Dr. Brooks Brown, a former Fleet Landing resident. He regards Brown as his most important mentor over the years. Immediately prior to coming to Fleet Landing, Helmers served as Director of Plant Operations at Wekiva Springs Center, a Jacksonville mental health facility, for five years.



When asked about what drew him to Fleet Landing, Helmers responded that it is well managed, it has a very active population, and he wished to be part of a winning team. Helmers's management philosophy is based on customer service, and that starts when one enters the gate. He feels that he should be in contact with his staff at all times and that all can be made better over time.

Helmers feels welcomed by staff and residents, and he is looking forward to meeting everyone. Say "Hello" if you should see him around the campus as he gets oriented.

August MOAA Meeting

By Enith Vardaman

Resident Pat Kluever, President of the Military Officers of America Association (MOAA) Historic Mayport Chapter, presided over the chapter's August 31 meeting held in Johnson Hall. Per custom, the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Kluever introduced the guest speaker, Christina Mershell, Business Development Coordinator, UF Health Proton Therapy Institute. She informed the audience, made up of chapter members and Fleet Landing residents, about proton therapy as a cancer treatment.



Mershell cited a wide range of cancers that can be treated with proton therapy, including prostate, lung, breast, bone, and head and neck cancer as well as pediatric cancers. Blood cancers cannot be treated with proton therapy.

Mershell contrasted radiation with proton therapy pointing out the advantage of the latter. With radiation, X-rays enter the body at high intensity and exit the body at low intensity, depositing most energy before reaching the tumor. In contrast, protons enter the body at low intensity and stop in the tumor at high intensity, with no exit dose and most energy deposited on the tumor. This allows directing a higher dose to a tumor, with less damage to surrounding healthy cells and fewer side effects.

UF Health has had a pioneering role in proton therapy. When it opened its proton center in 2006, it was one of only five in the entire country. Such centers now number 38. UF Health has treated 9,600 patients—the largest number of any facility in the southeastern United States.

Astralis Chamber Ensemble

By Chet Davis



Three members of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble, Angela Massey (flute), Antonio Innaimo (cello), and Chee-Hang See (piano), presented a virtuoso performance in Johnson Hall on the afternoon of September 3. Their program, "Legacy," focused on major composers representing key musical styles from the 18th to the 20th centuries and their influence on composers to follow. Compositions included in the performance were C.P.E. Bach's "Hamburger Sonata," Mozart's Piano Sonata No. 6, Schumann's Adagio and Allegro, Op.70, Debussy's "Syrinx," and Fauré's Trio, Op. 20. Each member of the ensemble had a solo part in the Bach and Fauré compositions. Judging by the applause, the performance of the Mozart sonata was the audience favorite, but the entire performance was very warmly received and loudly applauded.

The aim of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble, whose total number of members is nine, is to make classical music more accessible. Its members have performed together and individually in venues across the globe.

It was another very enjoyable concert presented by the Wellness Department. Kudos to Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, for a great summer of music.

Yacht Club News Rigging!

By Howard Burdick

Photos by Craig Miller and Jack Silcox



Left: The Hunters. Right: Demo sail on the lake.

On September 4, Yacht Club Commodore Carol Silcox organized a rigging party to demonstrate the most efficient way to rig our new American sailboats. While these three new boats are not much longer than our older Hunters, they are more beamy and much more stable to sail. The Naval Academy has a fleet of them. All sailboats can be described as somewhat generically similar in how they're rigged, but all have different hardware (sheaves, cleats, fairleads, shackles, and the like) and different types of lines (halyards, sheets, vang, outhauls, or others).

Carol and Jack Silcox used to own an American, and they are most familiar with them. Jim Freeman and Jack demonstrated setting both main and jib sails, and then they took those attending the session for demo sails on the lake.

The new boats have been kept in the lake since arriving. We have ordered new davits to hoist these heavier boats, but the dock areas need to be refurbished before they can be installed.

As the weather cools, look for more sailing activity on the lake. At some point, we plan to have a blessing of the new fleet, with appropriate hoopla.

The old Hunters, which have served us well for over 20 years, still have some life in them. We offered them to Jacksonville University in honor of their former president, and our former resident, the late Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne. The donation was supposed to take place last May, but illness and summer break delayed it until September. (See below for news of the September event.)

Sailboat Presentation

Photos by Jack Silcox

Yacht Club Commodore Carol Silcox reports that September 21 was a red-letter day for Fleet Landing. Jacksonville University (JU) sailing coach Jon Faudre and some of his sailing team loaded up the Hunters to take them to their new home at JU. She, her husband, Jack; Dante Capurro; and Jim Freeman (who had a tear of joy and a tear for having had these boats that he

worked on tirelessly through the years) were there for the presentation.

Carol commented, "It was an honor to present the Hunters to Jacksonville University in the memory of our neighbor, [the late] Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne, who was also JU's president. The boats hopefully will see many more years of sailing and attract those who want to learn the fine art of sailing."



Octoberfest Happy Hour



Perhaps it should have been called the "Almost Octoberfest," since it was held on September 30. No matter the date, residents gathered in the Atrium and bar to enjoy beer, pretzels, and music appropriate to the occasion.

Healing Art by and for Military Veterans: The Artists

Text and photo by Patricia Payne



A team of supporters used a sketch by Ted Gostas to create a replica of his prison cell for the exhibit. The window at the left provided the only light and ventilation. The white rat was his companion.

Fleet Landing was founded by military veterans and, for the first decades of its existence, accepted only those who had retired from a branch of military or civil service. This heritage continues with the strong influence of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the annual military ball, and regular meetings of military wives. A recent meeting of our MOAA chapter informed attendees of an exhibition of military art hosted by the St. Augustine Art Association. On August 13, a busload of Fleet Landing residents toured the exhibit, which featured art works by eight extremely talented veterans.

“Then & Now: 50 Years of Veteran Experiences” was curated by one of its most prolific artists, Army veteran **Jerome Domask**. He hopes that the exhibit raised awareness of the nature of veterans’ service and the importance of mental health, while demonstrating the power of creativity in healing a broken spirit. Domask “became obsessed with the pursuit for clarity, driven 24/7 to explore, dig, uproot, and reconcile my personal experiences during and after Vietnam.” His efforts to understand himself and to put the war into historical context resulted in the series “Reflections - Vietnam War 45 Years Later.” His paintings and sculptures have been in juried and curated art exhibits and are found in many public venues and private collections. He designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument for the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Army veteran **Ted Gostas**, a painter and poet, was captured in 1968 during the Tet Offensive. The highest ranking intelligence officer in the prison, he was tortured daily and spent more than four and a half years in solitary confinement during more than five years as a POW. He was awarded a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts for his bravery. Gostas illustrated

his poetry with sketches, and he published his book, *Prisoner*, in 1974. Today his work is in collections and museums around the nation.

A Navy veteran of the Middle East wars, **Skip Rohde**, during 22 years of service, was deployed on ships and submarines, managed field sites and technology development, and worked for the State Department, supporting local governments. His paintings have achieved national recognition and have been featured in multiple solo exhibitions. His “Faces of Afghanistan” series of 80 drawings is in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Museum of American History. “My Meditation on War’ series of paintings is an attempt to give non-veterans a bit of insight into some of the things that veterans live with,” Rohde says.

Painter **Phyllis Thomas** is a Vietnam veteran. She started making art as a child and when she joined the Navy, she began using it as a form of therapeutic empowerment. She is widely recognized both for her art and for her work with other veterans.

Army veteran **Saori Murphey**, a painter, says that with each relapse into depression, “insights surface and propel me to more self-discovery and deeper healing.” She began using her art degree during her last lapse to work with veterans in recovery, which started her journey of healing through creativity. Murphey became director of HeArt Circles, a program that uses art, mindfulness, and community to heal the body, mind, and spirit.

Cliff Leonard joined the Marine Corps in 1966 and served two years in the 3rd Recon Battalion in Vietnam. Later in life, following a life-changing medical event, Leonard began teaching himself to sculpt with clay. He has created more than 50 life-sized busts of Marines and Navy corpsmen from Florida who had been killed in action. He also created busts of members of his own Vietnam unit. These were gifted to veterans’ families and organizations. In 2020, Leonard was recommended for a Jacksonville Cultural Council Art award for working over a decade to recognize his fallen comrades in arms.

A Marine Iraq War veteran, **Maria Salazar** earned a B.S. of Art Therapy, focusing on both ceramics and art history. She founded the nonprofit program Claymore Vets. Their mission is to provide veterans with a safe way to emerge from the darkness into the light using the expressive manipulation of clay.

Navy Chaplain **Ron Moses Camarda** was nearly retired when he was assigned to Iraq during the battle of Fallujah, where he served with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and the Bravo Surgical Company. “Nothing prepares us for the gruesome details that mark our souls and spirits forever,” he says. He has been a pastoral counselor, Florida VFW State Chaplain, and currently is the pastor of St. Monica Catholic Church in Palatka. His book, *Tear In the Desert*, takes readers on a dark journey into the Iraq War.

Healing Art by and for Military Veterans: The Artworks

Text and photos by Patricia Payne



Left: "Rebuked by Society" is one of Jerome Domask's 15 artworks in the exhibit.

Right: Ted Gostas's "Werewolf" illustrates the mental and physical pain of imprisonment and daily torture. During his confinement, he "took shelter in an alternate reality."



Two paintings by Phyllis Thomas.

Left: "The Price Of Freedom." Right: "Celestial Kiss."



Left: Maria Salazar's "Always Faithful" honors the iconic nature of a warrior's boots.

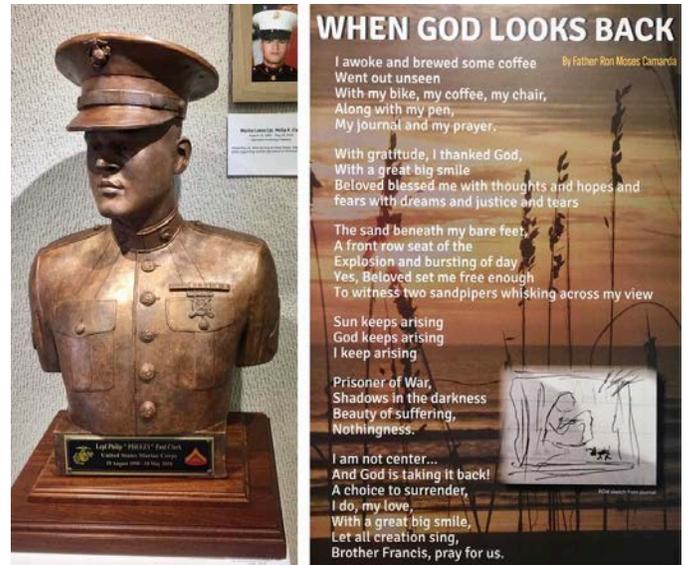
Right: Saori Murphey's "Stigma," a subject that concerns many veteran artists.



Two paintings by Skip Rohde.

Left: "Pleasantville" raised questions for at least one of our viewers. Perhaps it expresses that, in some ways, the entire family becomes part of the military and are often expected to appear positive about the experience, regardless of circumstances.

Right: Reminiscent of a pietà, "Lament" imagines a mother cradling the body of her dead son.



Left: One of Cliff Leonard's four busts in the exhibit. It shows the detail that enabled the busts to so closely resemble their subjects.

Right: Poem and sketch by Ron Moses Camarda.

In Memoriam

Joann Abelein
1925-2021
May Coons
1926-2021
Judy Foppiano
1927-2021

Glenn A. Bryant
1939-2021
Ann Duba
1924-2021
Millie Hatch
1925-2021

Hal Salzman
1922-2021

FLEET BEAT News

By Enith Vardaman

In this issue we welcome new resident Carol Smith as a reporter. Although she joined the *FLEET BEAT* staff only in mid-September, she has already written about two events for this issue: the San Marco Chamber Music Society concert (page 16) and the September New Resident Social (page 14). You can read more about Smith in the “Welcome Aboard” article about her (page 18).

Genealogy:

A Family Tree With Some Possible Surprises

By Anne Leyden



Vickie Dodds Urban (l) and Sherry Saucerman

Genealogy is now the second most popular hobby in the United States (after gardening), and its appeal was apparent in a fascinating September 7 Johnson Hall presentation by Sherry Saucerman, regent of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Vickie Dodds Urban, a fellow member. Saucerman’s desire to “leave bread crumbs for future generations” prompted her to begin her genealogical research.

Saucerman cautioned about believing family stories about our ancestors; often they are just myths or wishful thinking. Frequently the story places a prominent person in the family tree, but research will debunk the myth. Saucerman stressed that you should not be disappointed if the family stories are untrue. You may not have famous relatives, but you will find interesting ones.

When starting your research, Saucerman stated firmly, “Start with you!” Begin your family tree using your personal knowledge, and extend out from there. She emphasized the importance of communicating with your oldest family members. Gather their stories and collect family photographs.

More research tools are available than ever before — especially online—and forms to organize your data can be downloaded from the Web. Saucerman specifically mentioned the websites of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (register at familysearch.org) and Ancestry.com. FamilySearch is free to use; Ancestry is fee based, but offers a 14-day free trial and is available at Jacksonville public libraries. Both sites allow you to create an online family tree that can be expanded, and

you can also add images such as census records, birth certificates, and photos. Many specialized genealogical sites exist. For example, there is a site with information about immigrants coming through Ellis Island and another with records of pensions paid to widows of Civil War veterans. There are membership lists of professional organizations, church records, historic legal documents such as deeds and wills, old newspapers and books out of copyright. The list is, quite literally, endless.

DNA testing is popular now, primarily because people want to discover their ethnic origins, but the tests will also find family members you didn’t know you had and will tell you the nature of the relationship—first cousin once removed, half sibling, and the like. (Only people who have tested with the same company will be listed, although it is possible to exchange data with other testing companies.)

Again, Ancestry is a big player in DNA testing. Other companies are FamilyTree DNA, 23 and Me, My Heritage, and Living DNA. The tests, however, may have unexpected results. The speakers cautioned that you must be prepared to receive surprises. A previously unknown marriage, extra siblings, biological parents all may be found through DNA. Sometimes this information is welcome, but other times it may be disturbing. Who knew? Genealogy can be dangerous!

US Coast Guard Birthday Observed

On August 4, Fleet Landing marked the 231st birthday of the US Coast Guard with a flag raising ceremony on the Flag Plaza. On the birthday of each branch of the US Armed Forces, that branch’s flag replaces the Fleet Landing flag.



Left: Rear Admiral Rick Cueroni, USCG (Ret.) salutes. Right: Coast Guard flag.

Paddle Board Class With a Bonus

Photos by Ann Bell and Mary Faria

On August 31, an adventuresome group of Fleet Landing residents, accompanied by Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness, Services, headed to the Dutton Island Preserve for a paddle board class. Besides building their paddle board skills, they had the bonus of a sighting of a beautiful roseate spoonbill.



The group and their instructor on land and in the water



*Top left and right, and bottom left: Close-ups of three who have gotten the hang of paddle boarding.
Bottom right: Roseate spoonbill.*

Chess Club News

By Richard Wong

Drop by. Check us out. Play a friend. Meet a friend. Stimulate your mind.

We have the sets. We gather in the Windward Commons lobby on Tuesdays, 1 pm to 3 pm. We invite anyone who desires to learn, to imagine, to have fun, and to see all the possibilities on the chessboard.

Questions? Contact Richard Wong.

Three Generations of Wyeths

By Enith Vardaman



Mary Faria (center) introducing the program, Janet Kuchler, and Pat Kluever

On August 16, resident Janet Kuchler shared her knowledge about artists of the Wyeth family with an appreciative Johnson Hall audience. She began her talk with an expression of gratitude to resident Pat Kluever for his technical expertise. He created “The Wyeths of The ‘Realists School,’” PowerPoint slides of the Wyeth paintings she would discuss.

Kuchler was a docent for 14 years at the Brandywine River Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, PA. The museum showcases works by father, son and grandson, N.C. Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, and Jamie Wyeth. She discussed three paintings by each artist, pointing out elements that would give the audience a deeper understanding of each painting.

At the end of Kuchler’s presentation, an attendee asked which of all of the paintings by all of the Wyeths was her favorite. Her answer, wise, but also amusing, was that it was whichever one she was viewing at the moment. Another member of the audience thanked her for a new way of looking at art.

Her final comment was that it was never just a picture: Every painting has a part of the artist in it.

New Administration Building Open House

By Chet Davis

On August 19, residents had the opportunity to tour the new Administration Building located between Wendy's and the former Sonic property. This well-designed building can be accessed through the North Point gate or directly from Mayport Road. Housing Human Resources, it will be the first introduction to our campus for those seeking employment at Fleet Landing.

The building is also home to Accounting, which is under the direction of Controller Cynthia Hack.

Michele Holley, Senior Director, Human Resources, commented on the spaciousness of the facility and the decor, which complements that of all the new construction, while facilitating the various requirements of her department.



Exterior view



Conference Room



One of the offices



Staff were on hand to welcome visitors.



Training Room



Part of the reception area



Break Room

August WELLInspired Learning Series

By Victoria Freeman



Heidi Wymer (l) and Brooke Schudlich



LtoR: Alisa Blanchard, Sue Dukes, Jennifer Joy

The theme of the August WELLInspired Learning Series talks was incontinence. Heidi Wymer, RN in Fleet Landing's Home Health Department, and Brooke Schudlich, Occupational Therapist, spoke on August 5. Director, Wellness Services, Jennifer Joy; Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard; and Sue Dukes, a nutritional consultant from the Jacksonville area, spoke on August 19. The talks were held in Johnson Hall.

How Medications Affect Continence

Heidi Wymer began her presentation with a definition of continence, which is the ability to control movements of bowel and bladder. She emphasized the fact that incontinence is *not* a normal part of aging.

Although Wymer's focus was on medication side effects, she cited numerous other reasons for incontinence, including weak bladder or pelvic floor muscles, nerve damage from diseases such as diabetes or Parkinson's, surgery damage to nerves or muscles, an enlarged prostate, and pelvic organ prolapse, i.e., when pelvic organs such as the bladder or uterus shift out of their normal position.

Wymer enumerated common classes of medications that affect continence, including diuretics (increase urine production by the kidney), muscle relaxants and sedatives (cause sedation or drowsiness; relax the urethra), narcotics and antihistamines (cause sedation or drowsiness; relax the bladder, causing it to retain urine), and alpha-adrenergics antagonists (relax the muscle at the outlet of the bladder).

It's Not Just a Kegel—More Tips To Help With Incontinence

Brooke Schudlich said that 25 to 35 percent of all men and women experience urinary incontinence. It is a problem for the elderly because it can impact indepen-

dence and safety.

Schudlich noted four types of incontinence: overflow (caused by an obstruction so that urine does not flow out of the bladder properly), urge (involuntary loss of urine associated with urgency and inability to get to the bathroom in time), stress (urine leakage upon such things as laughing, jumping, coughing, or straining), and mixed (a combination of stress and urge).

Symptoms and side effects of incontinence include the feeling one's bladder has not been fully emptied, the need to rush to use the toilet, leakage when changing from a seated or lying position to standing, planning one's daily routine around toilet availability, and feelings of shame, depression, and embarrassment.

What should an individual plagued with incontinence do to remedy the situation? Schudlich offered a number of suggestions: See your doctor. Get an evaluation to determine the type of incontinence. Learn Kegels, a pelvic floor tightening exercise. Strengthen the core. Don't wear tight clothing. Avoid alcohol. Practice diaphragmatic breathing. Avoid irritating foods. Keep a food and urination diary, as this may pinpoint irritants.

Some staff are frequent speakers at the Learning Series talks. Other talks, as was the case with Schudlich, have been presented by staff speaking at the podium for the first time. These first-time speakers, with whom residents might not have had occasion to come in contact, are an indication of the breadth of expertise of Fleet Landing staff.

Bladder Matters for Men and Women

The familiar "Brain Fit Check-in" diagram was displayed before turning to the subject matter of the presentation. It depicts controllable elements that residents can use to evaluate their brain health: physical activity, healthy diet, sufficient sleep, stress management, social support, no comorbid conditions, and cognitive stimulation.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) were cited as one of the most frequent and hidden infections in the elderly. Signs and symptoms of a UTI can often mimic more serious conditions such as dementia. A natural decline in organ/ muscle function and urine that remains in the bladder too long all contribute to an increase in UTI risk.

Changes in kidneys and bladder occur with age, so how can individuals keep their bladders healthy? Eleven strategies were cited.

First, drink enough fluid. Water is best. Other options are low-fat or fat-free milk, seltzer water, club soda, and fruit juice. Drinking 8 ounces of fluid first thing in the morning and frequenting Fleet Landing's hydration stations are good habits. Drinking water throughout the day rather than consuming it all at night is recommended.

Water has multiple benefits, including aiding wound healing, warding off infection, ridding the body

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August WELLInspired Learning Series

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of post-anesthesia toxins, preventing deep vein thrombosis, forming saliva, flushing body waste, and lubricating joints. Residents can check their hydration levels on the Tanita scale, which is available in Windward Commons.

A chart of the fluid content of common foods was displayed. For example, foods ranging from pudding to popsicles and sherbet to soup yield 3 to 4 ounces of fluid.

Other controllable factors for bladder health included the following: Limit the hydration robbers alcohol and caffeine (women and men should limit alcohol intake to one drink and two drinks per day respectively), quit smoking, use bathroom often and when needed, empty bladder fully, relax when urinating, urinate after sex, wear cotton underwear and loose-fitting clothes, avoid constipation, and keep a healthy weight.

Pelvic floor exercise was stressed. Those present participated in a demonstration of Kegels, an exercise to prevent or control incontinence.

Timucuan Parks Foundation

By Enith Vardaman

Although Jacksonville is a major urban area, it is also home to an extraordinary number of natural areas.



In her “Celebrate and Explore Our Wilderness Parks” presentation on September 27 in Johnson Hall, Program Director for Timucuan Parks Foundation Felicia Boyd acquainted residents with the foundation’s role in preserving, promoting, and enhancing the more than 23 parks and preserves in this area. It partners with the National Park Service, Florida State Parks, the City of Jacksonville, and other

community organizations in pursuit of its goals.

Boyd emphasized that the Jacksonville area’s parks offer fresh air, fitness, friendship, and fun. Hiking, biking, canoeing, beach going, and kayaking were among the outdoor activities pictured in the slides of the various parks in her presentation. Many of these parks, including Little Talbot Island State Park, Big Talbot Island State Park, Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, Dutton Island Preserve, and more, were familiar to residents because Fleet Landing’s Wellness Department has been diligent in offering outings to them.

We are indeed fortunate to live in an area offering access to such a wealth of natural beauty.

Bridge News

By CeCe Lichtenstein

Bridge at Fleet Landing is beginning to have a really nice group that includes some of the new residents. We are happy to have another game day, the *first* Saturday of the month. The game will begin at 12:30 pm promptly. Be sure to bring a partner and \$2 per person. This game has been scheduled at a time that does *not* conflict with the Jacksonville School of Bridge.

If you think you are not sophisticated enough because you haven’t played in “practically forever,” don’t worry about it. Many of our current players said the same thing, but now they are happy to get back to it. And, if you are a really new player, you might enjoy coming to the weekly Monday game, which starts at 12 noon and is somewhat less competitive.

Both games are played in the Atlantic Room.

Come to the Club Fair on October 29 for more information.

Summer Concert Series: Noel Freidline and Friends

By Victoria Freeman



Noel Freidline and Marie Howell



That Noel Freidline and Friends “rocked the house” was the general consensus after the jazz group’s Johnson Hall concert on August 6. Joined by dynamic vocalist Marie Howell, the group romped through well-known songs by musicians as varied as Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, and the Carpenters.

Each member of the Freidline group was given a chance to shine: Justin Barnes on drums, Stan Piper on bass, Dr. Bill Prince on “all horns,” and Freidline on keyboard.

Freidline introduced Howell with a list of her varied accomplishments, including a role in the movie “The Color Purple,” numerous voiceovers, and a spot in a Super

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**Summer Concert Series:
Noel Freidline and Friends**

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Bowl ad for Walmart. The Freidline-Howell duo has worked together on many occasions. On stage, they exchanged many humorous remarks.

Freidline told stories about his Kansas youth and his parents, and he also introduced many of the songs with intriguing information. Who knew that crooner Frank Sinatra recorded songs as varied as “Strangers in the Night” and “Harper Valley PTA”? Who suspected that the perennial wedding song, “We’ve Only Just Begun,” was originally commissioned to be featured in Crocker Bank (a California-based bank now merged with Wells Fargo) television commercials?

The audience’s standing ovation sent Noel Freidline and Friends a message that Fleet Landing folks were delighted with the performance. As one energized audience member said in exiting, “Mary Faria [Manager, Wellness Services] outdid herself this time.”

FLiCRA Update

By Enith Vardaman



Left: Pat Kluever and the new banner.

Right: Closeup of the new banner.

Florida Life Care Residents Association (FLiCRA) board members and neighborhood representatives gathered in the Great Room of Windward Commons on

August 26 for a Fleet Landing chapter update. Chapter President Pat Kluever presided over the meeting, where special FLiCRA name tags showing each person’s role were distributed.

Recruitment of new members in the 8000 Building was a topic for discussion. Until recently, the neighborhood representatives recruited members from among their neighbors in a cul-de-sac and nearby manor homes or in a particular apartment building. Because the 8000 building is considerably larger than the original apartment buildings, it will be necessary to find multiple neighborhood representatives in that building to acquaint all its other new residents with FLiCRA.

A new banner promoting the benefits of FLiCRA membership was also on display. This reminder of just how important FLiCRA is to continuing care retirement community (CCRC) residents will be seen at Residents’ Council meetings and other appropriate venues on campus.

August New Resident Social

By Isobel Spink



The resurgence of COVID-19 required some adapting of the way in which the monthly New Resident Social was held. On August 26, attendees first gathered outside Windward Commons in the covered walkways and in the porte cochère, where food and drink were served. They would have been protected from the elements even if there had been an afternoon thunderstorm instead of just the drizzle that did occur. The long line for drinks was evidence that no one was the least bit deterred by the circumstances. There were lots of new as well as established residents there, and I met people from North Carolina, New York, Hawaii, Michigan, and several other corners of the country.

After about 30 minutes of socializing, we went into Johnson Hall for more formal introductions. Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer welcomed everyone. He then introduced Jennifer Joy, Director,

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August New Resident Social

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Wellness Services, and her “Sparkle Team,” made up of Senior Living Counselor Kathy DeSiena and Connie Wheat. As photos of each new couple and single were shown on the two large screens, they were asked to stand. The audience responded with warm applause.

Then it was on to the game of the day, “That’s Me.” Joy’s first question to the crowd was, “What was your worst style choice?” Some answers were “big hair” and “bell bottoms.” Another question: “If you could compete in the Olympics, what sport would you choose?” Answers to this included “pole vaulting,” “golf,” and “gymnastics” (Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard’s answer). Joy’s last question was, “Which fictional character would you want to meet?” Some answers were “Rhett Butler,” “Jane Eyre,” “Huck Finn,” and “Sherlock Holmes.”

Joy announced that the bar was still open. The rain had stopped, and the crowd went back outside to continue celebrating our new residents. As always, it was a lovely event.

September New Resident Social

By Carol Smith



Alert—shark sighting at Fleet Landing! During the September 23 New Resident Social in Johnson Hall, Jennifer Joy, Director, Wellness Services, and April Morin, Director, Sales and Marketing, asked, “Would you rather be bitten by a shark or mauled by a lion?” Just then, a fuzzy, large blue and white shark walked onto the stage causing those in attendance to immediately decide to take their chances with the friendly and harmless shark.

Thirty-five new residents were introduced—the largest number ever—though Joy promised there would be more to come next month. The new arrivals expressed their appreciation of Fleet Landing and shared

some of the things they like most. Richard and Nancy Lundgren told how they are trying everything. Nancy attended four classes one morning and had to nap that afternoon. Bobbie Fost has already joined the ladies 9-hole golf, and Rich Gottlick said he enjoyed all the activities and especially the food. When asked her favorite thing about Fleet Landing, Carol Houle responded immediately with “People!”

With so many of the new residents occupying the 8000 building, friendships are developing, and a camaraderie is apparent. A book club has been formed, and social gatherings are enjoyed in the building’s spacious common areas.

As usual, before and after the more formal part of the event, attendees could partake of beverages and hors d’oeuvres while socializing with the new residents. Music for the occasion was provided by Happy Hour regulars Blue Muse.

Given so many new faces on campus, everyone is encouraged to make a special effort to watch for the red stars on name tags and get to know all our new neighbors.

September WELLInspired Learning Series

By Victoria Freeman



LtoR: Heidi Wymer, Lisa Spink, Alisa Blanchard

The theme of the September WELLInspired Learning Series talks was fall prevention. Heidi Wymer, RN in Fleet Landing’s Home Health Department, Physical Therapist Dr. Lisa Spink, spoke on September 2. Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard spoke on September 16. The talks were held in Johnson Hall.

How Medications Impact Falling

Heidi Wymer said that many drugs increase the risk of falling, and combinations of drugs increase that risk the most. Wymer cited categories of medications that can increase the risk of falling: antihistamines, antidepressants, and narcotics as well as drugs for anxiety, allergies, sleep, and hypertension.

Wymer suggested what to do to prevent falls when taking high-risk medicine: Make a list of everything you take. Include the dose and when you take it. Keep a copy with you, and take it to each doctor visit. Tell the doctor about any side effects experienced. Ask if there are any medicines that you do not need or should not take. Find out if a treatment without medicine might work for you. Use one drugstore for all prescriptions.

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September WELLInspired Learning Series

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Wise movement is another way to prevent falling. Stand up slowly, and stay still for a few seconds before moving. Walk carefully. Use your glasses and hearing aids. If one leg is weaker, get into the tub or shower with the weaker leg, and get out with the stronger leg.

Wymer suggested safety changes around the home: Keep the walking path clear and well lit. Have loose carpet and uneven flooring repaired. Store items within easy reach. Avoid reaching overhead.

Wymer also made these suggestions: Before taking a new prescription or over-the-counter medication, ask a pharmacist or doctor if there are any fall-risk side effects. If home or outdoors alone, keep a phone or personal medical alert device with you. Have vision and hearing checked annually or when a change is noticed. Talk to a doctor or physical therapist about exercises for improving strength and balance. Fleet Landing's Home Health Department may also be able to help.

Look, Hear, and Feel 3 Systems To Improve Your Balance

Lisa Spink defined balance as the even distribution of weight that enabled someone to remain upright and steady. It is made up of three systems: visual, somatosensory, and vestibular.

Visual system. Vision provides balance feedback for your body. Possible vision problems include blurred vision, double vision, and macular degeneration. To improve balance with your visual system, turn lights on, including nightlights.

Somatosensory system. This is a complex system of sensory neurons and neural pathways that responds to changes at the surface or inside the body. Ways of improving this system include work on strength, dynamic (such as walking) and static (such as standing) activities, coordination, and movement awareness.

Vestibular system. This system provides the leading contribution to the sense of balance and spatial orientation for the purpose of coordinating movement with balance. Examples of vestibular disorders include vertigo, dizziness, Meniere's disease, head injuries, and nerve inflammation.

Spink said that there are ways to assess and establish one's level of balance, and there are a number of techniques to improve all three balance systems.

Rock Steady Boxing

According to Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard, Rock Steady Boxing (RSB) provides much more than instruction in punching and staying off the ropes. Created by Scott Newman when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's, RSB helps to improve balance, focus, gait, posture, speed of movement, and power. Even more impor-

tantly, RSB gives individuals hope, a sport family, and the will to fight back.

Fleet Landing's three trained boxing coaches present classes with the following sequence: warm ups, equipment drills, rounds, balance training, strength, care, and stretching. The ending of each class is a group "HOORAH." "The 'HOORAH' is legitimate and important," says Blanchard. "Individuals are putting out serious efforts, and they need to feel positive about what they have done."

According to Blanchard, the class will have progressive levels and everyone is welcome into the current Level 1 classes. Some of the participants are not afflicted with Parkinson's, but find the workouts and the camaraderie very helpful.

The motto of RSB says it all: "In this corner, Hope. Fighting back against Parkinson's."

Editor's note: Our FLEET BEAT reporter was unable to attend the September 16 presentation. This article is based on a subsequent interview with Blanchard.

Chips & Putts

By Helen Craig
August

The August Fleet Landing Golf Tournament was scheduled at Windy Harbor Golf Club, because Windy Harbor breezes usually provide relief from summer heat. August 12 proved to be an exception and, as noted by Julie Rochelle, "The highlight of this tournament was the heat index." Tournament Coordinator Bob Mills commented that this was his seventh summer at Fleet Landing and on the golf courses here, "but none were like what we experienced on this day. The good news? We survived." The scores, however, offered further testament to the heat—much higher than usual for Windy Harbor.

Coming in first place, with a score of 76 and one birdie, was the team of Larry Magner (captain), Rick Rochelle, Bobbie Fost (new resident), and Syd Jenkins (new resident). In second place, scoring a 77 and one birdie, was the team of Mike Moorhead (captain), Sharyn Roettger (new resident), Dick Beltson (new resident), and Nick Malie. Moorhead reported his team "was proud to be standing at the end!" The third place team, made up of Julie Rochelle (captain), Jerry Bowles (new resident), Lindsay Norman, and Pat Patterson, scored a 78 with no birdies. In fourth place, but with two players dropping out after nine holes, was the team of John Hedge (captain), John Coman, Bob Huhta, and Isobel Spink. Their score of 79 included two birdies.

As usual, extra prizes were awarded to players for special performance feats. The awards for "Longest Drive" went to Spink for the ladies and to Rochelle for the men. The prize for "Closest to the Pin" on the designated par-3 hole #14 went to Coman for the men, with none of the ladies hitting their drives onto this green.

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Chips & Putts

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Hedge awarded the “Birdie Trophy” to Coman, who, in addition to his “Closest to the Pin” drive, had a 30’ putt on the first hole his team played, getting them off to a good start. Fost was awarded the “Sandbagger Trophy” by Magner, who cited her long shots and precise putts as key to the winning team’s performance. Congratulations to all the special prize winners.

Future Fleet Landing Golf Tournaments are scheduled at Windsor Parke Golf Club in September (see next column), Jax Beach Golf Club in October, and Hidden Hills Golf Club and Windy Harbor Golf Club for the last two months of the year. Here’s to cooler weather, great scores, and much fun.

September

On a bright and sunny September 9, sixteen Fleet Landing residents welcomed a break in the rainy weather to participate in the monthly Fleet Landing Golf Tournament. The site for this tournament was Windsor Parke Golf Club, with tee times beginning at 8:34 am and not a raindrop in sight. A good day for golf on a beautiful course.

Following the play, Tournament Coordinator Bob Mills collected the score sheets. He reported the scores and winnings via email and social mailbox. Because of COVID-19, the dinner gathering where the game and results are usually discussed continues not to be possible, but good play was still rewarded.

In first place, with a score of 73 (including three birdies), was the team of Nick Malie (captain), Julie Rochelle, Bob Springer (new resident) and Jerry Bowles (new resident). In second place, also scoring a 73 but with two birdies, was the team of Isobel Spink (captain), Rick Rochelle, Bob Ellis (new resident), and Dick Beltson (new resident). In such cases, the United States Golf Association recommends determining first and second place based on the best score for the last nine holes. With the lower score being better, the Malie team (score of 36) edged out the Spink team (score of 37) for first place.

In third place was the team of Tom Gonwa (captain), Syd Jenkins (new resident), Larry Magner, and Sharyn Roettger (new resident), with a score of 76 and three birdies. Then, in fourth place, with a score of 79 and 1 one birdie. was the team of Lindsay Norman (captain), Bobbie Fost (new resident), Mike Moorhead, and Dennis Craft (new resident).

Again, extra prizes were awarded to individual players who performed especially well in important areas. “Longest Drive” for the ladies was hit by Roettger, and for the men, by Rochelle. Awards for “Closest to the Pin” on the selected par-3 hole were won by Fost for the ladies and by Gonwa for the men. Malie awarded the “Sandbagger Trophy” to Rochelle, citing her positive attitude that helped the team and her steady

play that contributed to the team win. Gonwa then awarded the “Birdie Trophy” to Jenkins, because he made two of the team’s birdie putts and several of the par putts.

Next month’s tournament will be held at Jax Beach Golf Club on Thursday, October 14. Here’s to delightful weather and fantastic scores.

Chamber Music Series Returns

By Carol Smith



The Chamber Music Series launched its 2021 season on September 21 in Johnson Hall with a performance by The San Marco Chamber Music Society. Opening with “Hope in Dark Times,” the program went on to feature each member of the ensemble. Pianist Rachel Clifton and Jacksonville Symphony musicians, Patrick Graham (clarinet), Eric Olson (Principal Oboe), Ellen Olson (viola), and Les Roettges (Principal Flute), performed solo or in various combinations. The final musical selection, “Caprice on Danish & Russian Airs” by Camille Saint-Saëns, brought the audience to its feet for an enthusiastic standing ovation.

Underwritten by residents Walter and Cynthia Graham and produced in conjunction with the Wellness Department, the Chamber Music Series is a vital part of the music scene at Fleet Landing. Residents were clearly delighted by the return of the series after a hiatus caused by the pandemic. The next performance is scheduled for October 19 at 4 pm in Johnson Hall.

Welcome Aboard

8202 Judy and Franklin (Buster) Hagenbeck (June)

While Judy was born in Tennessee and Buster in Morocco (a Navy junior), they both grew up here in Jacksonville. After 40 years and 24 moves courtesy of the US Army, they returned and found us.



Buster graduated from the US Military Academy, returning there as Superintendent for his last duty. He retired in 2010 as a lieutenant general.

His interim years were spent as an infantry officer in command at every rank, with duty in Australia, Afghanistan, and several tours at the Pentagon on the Army and Joint Staffs. Along the way, he garnered an M.S. from Florida State University, and an MBA from Long Island University. In his post-Army years, Buster has served on a number of boards of nonprofit organizations, and as a CEO of a leadership and consulting firm. Fleet Landing attendees of World Affairs Council talks, either in-person or via simulcast, will recognize him as Board Chairman of that organization. Judy has primarily enjoyed a life of community service, volunteering with various organizations in support of Army families. The couple raised a son (colonel, USAR) and daughter, and they are the proud grandparents of four. They are avid proponents of physical fitness (and look it).

—Howard Burdick

114 Lynette and Bill Beitz (June)

Bill and Lynette moved from Michigan to Jacksonville in 1987, when Bill accepted the job of Director of Catholic Charities. He was later promoted to Diocesan Director, overseeing 16 counties around Jacksonville.



Bill grew up in Saginaw, MI, and attended Holy Cross Seminary in Wisconsin, earning a master's degree in theology. He also has a master's degree in public administration from Central Michigan University.

Lynette grew up on a dairy farm in West Branch, MI, and attended Ferris State University where she began her studies in accounting. Later, she attended Florida State College of Jacksonville and the University of North Florida and became a certified public account-

tant. She worked for nonprofit organizations like the Chamber of Commerce of Jacksonville and the Girl Scouts of America.

The Beitzes' story of moving to Fleet Landing shows determination. After 4½ years on the waiting list, their move was delayed for another ten months by COVID-19. Having already sold their house in Jacksonville, they spent nearly a year at Lynette's family's dairy farm in Michigan before moving in here.

The Beitzes enjoy driving around the adjacent neighborhoods in the evening with their two pug dogs, Chloe and Dolly, in the back of their golf cart. Other activities include being avid Jaguar fans "in spite of their lack of success," reading, and travel, especially cruising on Celebrity. They would love to meet fellow cruisers. Lynette also volunteers for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). They have three children and five grandchildren.

—Kristin Perry

8317 Sue and Bob Ellis (June)

Both Bob and Sue are dyed-in-the-wool Southerners.



Bob grew up in Enterprise, AL, Sue is from Blakely, GA, and both graduated from Auburn University. Bob served in the Air Force for five years, in Korea and at Andrews Air Force Base. The Ellises both had prior marriages, but when they met, they were married in 90

days—love at first sight, indeed. They have been married for 38 years.

Bob opened a flooring company in Alabama, and in 1992, he moved the company to Jacksonville. Bob was President of the Chamber of Commerce in Blakely and in Dothan, AL, and was very active in the Association of U.S. Army, an organization of both military command staff and local civilian leaders whose mission was to support the interaction of military and civilians in the community.

The couple has lived in Ponte Vedra since 1995. Bob is an avid golfer and hopes to play when the weather cools. Between them, they have four children and five grandchildren.

Sue spent her time raising children, then keeping Bob out of trouble. He was locally known as a "chick magnet," and women love him and his sense of humor. Sue's main interest is gardening, and her specialty is growing fiddle-leaf figs, which are beautifully displayed on their porch.

The Ellises love Fleet Landing for several reasons.

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Welcome Aboard

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People are here by choice, everyone is smiling and friendly, and the campus concept here is so comprehensive.

Welcome, Bob and Sue.

—Isobel Spink

8417 Joan and Declan (Dec) Schaefer (June)



Dec and Joan, who are both golfers, moved here from Palencia, in St. Augustine. Joan is from Pennsylvania, Dec from Connecticut, and they met at Rider College in New Jersey. After college, Joan taught high school for two years, and Dec joined Sperry Univac.

Moving to Westborough, MA, the Schaefers started their own business, providing rolling and interlocking shelving for material storage. They worked mainly with museums and libraries, and Dec did business with Harvard when Enith Vardaman was a librarian there. Joan was the business's bookkeeper, secretary, office manager, and held many other titles. Starting with three employees, the company employed sixty at its peak.

The Schaefers were snowbirds for a while, coming to Stuart, FL, in the winter, but they eventually moved South so they could see their grandchildren. Their grandchildren couldn't understand why Dec and Joan wouldn't just come down to FL for a day to see their school play or a ball game.

One of the Schaefer's sons still manages the business in MA, and their other son lives in Atlantic Beach. They have five grandchildren. The Schaefers look forward to their new lives at Fleet Landing, making new friends, and hopefully playing golf again.

Welcome, Dec and Joan.

—Isobel Spink

8305 Pat Murray (June)

Pat moved here from Amelia Island, FL, but she is originally from Philadelphia, PA. After schooling in New Jersey, she began an illustrious career with the Cadillac Division of General Motors, beginning as a secretary. She moved up to executive secretary, then into management. She explained that in order to keep government contracts, GM had to diversify by putting women into management positions, and Pat certainly made the grade. In the course of more than 16 years, she was transferred to Cincinnati, OH; Jacksonville; Detroit, MI; Dallas, TX; and Valley Forge, PA.

After a 33-year career, Pat retired, moved to Amelia Island, and built a house. She made the decision to move here after learning about our community at a Fleet Landing-sponsored symphony concert, where she was given information and an invitation to lunch. Pat is looking forward to aging in such a friendly environment with neighbors who are her contemporaries.



While in Amelia Island, Pat volunteered at the Amelia Island Museum, Habitat for Humanity, and the Humane Society. She was also a docent for 20 years at the Amelia Island Museum of History. Coincidentally, new resident Bobbie Fost was also a docent at the museum.

Pat has a darling black-and-white Border Collie mix named Maddie, who will certainly be in the next Fleet Furrries calendar. In addition to her corporate skills, Pat also paints with both watercolors and acrylics, and she hopes to do more of it here.

Welcome!

—Isobel Spink

5620 Carol Smith (July)

In 1978, shortly after graduating from law school at Indiana University-Indianapolis, Carol moved to Washington, DC, to work for Congressman Ralph Regula (R-Ohio) on the House Appropriations Committee. She met Tony, her husband-to-be, in DC, where he was lobbying for the Aleut Natives of Alaska. He convinced her to marry him and whisked her away to Anchorage.

In Alaska, Carol worked for the Army Corps of Engineers as an environmental attorney. In 1986, she and Tony adopted their son, Michael, in Peru. That same year, they launched the *Alaska Business Monthly*. In 1992, Tony won the Democratic nomination for the US Senate, running against the Republican incumbent, Senator Frank Murkowski. Carol says that the voters didn't send Mr. Smith to Washington, but he went anyway.

In 1995, the couple moved to DC, where Tony set up the public policy section in a law firm, and Carol became general counsel for The State Affairs Company, with clients in public sector and state organizations. They retired to Steamboat Springs, CO, in 2005. Tony was treated for cancer a year after retiring. After he died, Carol

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Welcome Aboard

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moved to her home state of Ohio, where she helped care for aging parents until 2018. She then moved to Panama City Beach, FL, and anxiously awaited her opportunity to move to Fleet Landing.

She is now settled into her new home with her two cats, Ayeska and Quarry. Carol spends her time golfing, playing tennis, biking, learning pickleball, and taking wellness classes.

—*Kristin Perry*

3213 Nancy Weir (July)



International activity and an international mindset might define the spirit of Nancy Weir's life. As a vice president of Brunshwig & Fils, a renowned fabric design firm with showrooms in New York City, London and Paris, Nancy was based in NYC but traveled to the other locations. She also spent time in Zurich, Switzerland, with her husband, George, when he was working there. The two traveled extensively in Europe and in North Africa and Asia.

The Weirs lived in Bronxville, NY. After retiring, they moved to Tampa, FL, in 2001. They continued their international focus by participating in foreign exchange programs and hosting students from different countries. As International Director for the Tampa Rotary Club, George participated in foreign exchange programs and hosted groups of visiting professionals for 20 years, introducing them to Tampa residents.

Nancy tells of the rituals of their Burns night parties (named after the Scottish poet Robert Burns), with bagpipes and a menu that included haggis (a famous Scottish dish), single malt scotch, and Topsy Laird (a traditional Scottish dessert). Other Fleet Landing residents of Scottish descent could consider recreating this ceremony locally.

George died before Nancy moved to Fleet Landing, but she will continue doing a lot of things they enjoyed together, such as participating in wine tasting events. She wants to attend the World Affairs Council programs and participate in exercise classes. She is a distant relative of current Fleet Landing residents through a cousin-by-marriage who lived at Fleet Landing.

—*Kristin Perry*

8301 Dory and Dick Beltson (May)

Dick and Dory moved here from Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, but until now, they have lived a remarkable life. Both were Bronxville, NY, natives and they met in high school there. Dick then went to Lehigh University and Dory, to the University of Alabama,

where she was a cheerleader for Bear Bryant.

Dick and Dory were married in 1961. Dick had joined the Army, but left after three years and joined American Can. When he rejoined the Army in 1964, they were assigned to Germany. With their boys, Steven and Stuart, both of whom later became Army aviators, they subsequently moved from base to base. (This was their 26th move.)

While stationed at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, Dick went to Germany for an assignment where wives and children were not allowed. Dory, having been left in charge of 200 wives and children, stepped up and performed magnificently.

Both the Beltsons are golfers, but during their lives on the move, Dory became a seven-handicap golfer.

In 1992, after eight years at the Pentagon, Dick concluded his 31-year career with the Army and joined Raytheon Company. Their three years with Raytheon in Saudi Arabia were storied, and they lived "the life of Riley" with luxurious amenities—even a compound pool that was heated in the winter and chilled in the summer.

Dick and Dory are delighted to be here, and they love both the friendliness and all the activities Fleet Landing has to offer. Welcome!

—*Isobel Spink*

8207 Cyndee and Bruce Osborne (July)

Cyndee, the daughter of an Air Force officer, was raised in areas where her parents were stationed, including Morocco, Portugal, Florida, and Texas. She attended Texas Women's College in Denton, TX, and Lambuth University in Jackson, TN. After a brief career in the mortgage loan business, Cyndee became a homemaker



and raised the couple's two children. Of special note among her numerous volunteer activities: As a volunteer for the US Tennis Professional Tennis, Association, she umpired for an exhibition match between John McEnroe and Vitas Gerulaitis.

Bruce holds a bachelor's degree from the University
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Welcome Aboard

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of North Texas in Denton, and a master's from George Washington University in Washington, DC. His 23-year Army career included a leadership role with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam in 1969. Besides his training as an Army helicopter pilot, he holds a fixed-wing pilot's certificate, a commercial pilot's license, and has rotary wing, fixed wing, and instrument ratings. His civilian career was in the consumer hardware industry. He retired as a senior executive of a global manufacturing firm based in Turin, Italy. His volunteer activities include serving on the boards of the Pinehurst, NC, chapters of the Military Officers Association of America and of the English-Speaking Union.

The couple's many interests have included skiing, tennis, boating, scuba diving, travel, gourmet dining, golf, reading, and wine tastings. Cyndee also enjoys cooking, sewing, quilting, and mah-jongg.

—Enith Vardaman

8310 Suzie and John Hen (May)

Although John and Suzie Hen were both born in



Manila to Chinese parents, they did not meet until after they moved to this country to attend graduate school at Utah State University. Both are chemical engineers. John completed his

Ph.D. as a physical chemist, and Suzie has a master's degree in biochemistry. Suzie spent her career at Merck and John at Mobil and BASF. Following retirement from those careers, they settled in Bradenton, FL, where they worked as consultants in Tuscany, Italy; Puerto Rico; and Shanghai, China. (They speak four languages.) John started painting. Two of his works are currently on exhibit in the Coleman Center second floor atrium. Suzie likes to crochet and get together with friends. Both enjoy playing mah-jongg and reading about their Chinese heritage and other cultures. They have a son and a daughter and five grandchildren.

This very approachable couple is enjoying life at Fleet Landing, and those of us who are getting to know them are delighted to have them here.

—Patricia Payne

8306 Eve and Jeff Doherty (June)

Eve and Jeff Doherty were both raised in the Philadelphia, PA, area. Eve graduated from Wells College in New York State and Jeff, from Suffolk University in Boston, MA. They raised their son and

daughter on the northern coast of New Jersey, from where they could see New York City. They have four grandchildren.

Jeff's career included the United States Navy and



corporate marketing/sales administration. After retiring, he taught in New Jersey and Alabama public schools as well as in private schools in Ecuador and Pakistan.

Through the American Field Service, Eve and Jeff hosted students from Brazil and Japan for the year and many students for a short term. Their

daughter was an exchange student in Colombia.

After Jeff retired, the couple moved to Fairhope, AL, where they volunteered in several community organizations, including RSVP, a senior group that volunteers assistance to local and county organizations. Jeff was an active member of the Baldwin County Master Gardeners.

Because Jeff's early duty station was Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and because they are careful planners, the Dohertys came full circle to Fleet Landing after being in the Atlantic Club for almost 20 years. As Eve says, "We came directly across on I-10 from Alabama, where we lived for 25 years."

When asked why they selected Fleet Landing, they answered, "For us and for our children." They hope to play party bridge, join a book club, and travel.

—Victoria Freeman

Editor's note: Fleet Landing currently has an unprecedented number of new residents. *FLEET BEAT* staff are working hard to prepare as many "Welcome Aboard" articles for each issue as time and space permit.

Library Notes

By Enith Vardaman

We thank our recent donors: Anne Conway, Lory Doolittle, Ed Fenton, Deb Fialik (yoga instructor during the pandemic) and her mother, Karen Hassler, Lorie Holmes, Anne and Don Husmann, Suzanne McKnight, Ann and Bob Linn, Ann O'Connor, Mary Ellen Reed, and Fran and Pete Sheridan.

New resident Linda Bryant enriched the library's collection with some leather-bound classics. Two are by authors in the Easton Press's "100 Greatest Books Ever Written" series (Charles Darwin and Thomas Paine). Three are by authors in that publisher's "The Library of the Presidents" series (John Quincy Adams, James Madison, and John F. Kennedy). One was published by the Franklin Library (Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind*). These special books can be found on a bottom shelf in the Fiction section immediately following the library's "Great Books of the Western World" series.

POW/MIA Recognition Day

By Isobel Spink



LtoR: Bob Burkart, Eileen Norrington, Dick Beltson



Ed Turner, Eileen Thisis, Beryl Hubbard

Fleet Landing’s observance of this year’s National POW/MIA Recognition Day began with a ceremonial raising of the POW/MIA flag at 8 am on September 17 at the Flag Plaza. This flag is the only flag that ever flies directly under our nation’s flag.

At 10:30 am, Residents’ Council President, Lieutenant Colonel Bob Burkart, USAF (Ret.), welcomed attendees to Fleet Landing’s second annual observance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. This ceremony, which takes place on the third Friday

of September, joins our other traditional ceremonies, Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Veterans Day. On this day, Fleet Landing recognizes those who worked tirelessly to bring the POWs home and remembers and recognizes those returned POWs who are and have been Fleet Landing residents.

Burkart introduced the Master of Ceremony and Fleet Landing resident, Captain Eileen Norrington, USN Chaplain Corps (Ret.). With Karen Sturtevant at the piano, Norrington led those present in the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and she delivered the invocation. She then described the lengthy and determined efforts of the families and friends of POWs to make America aware of the mistreatment of US prisoners, and she related the history of the POW/MIA flag. She noted the ongoing search for the over 82,000 Americans who remain missing from WWII and subsequent conflicts.

Norrington introduced Fleet Landing resident, Major General Dick Beltson, USA (Ret.), who read President Biden’s “A Proclamation on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 2021.”

Norrington read the names of those deceased POWs who had resided at Fleet Landing: Second Lieutenant Les Foppiano, United States Army Air Corps (WWII), Colonel George McKnight, United States Air Force (Vietnam), Colonel Carl Crumpler, United States Air Force (Vietnam), and Rear Admiral Robert “By” Fuller, United States Navy, who was also a founding board member of Fleet Landing (Vietnam). A single bell stroke followed the reading of each name. Norrington then read the names of current Fleet Landing residents who are former POWs: Captain Dick “The Beak” Stratton, United States Navy (Vietnam), and her husband, Captain Giles Norrington, United States Navy (Vietnam).

Norrington introduced Captain Ed Turner, USN (Ret.), a member of the Board of Directors for the POW/MIA National Memorial at Cecil Field here in Duval County. What began in 2016 as a Hero’s Walk for pilots from Cecil Field has morphed into plans for a grand monument and a museum. Fund raising is well underway, and contributions would be gratefully received.

Residents’ Council Vice President Eileen Thisis spoke, emphasizing that we should make sure that younger generations understand about POWs and MIAs, as some may believe that the Hanoi Hilton was a Hilton Hotel. As a slide of a missing man table was displayed on the Johnson Hall screens, she described the symbolism of each item on the table.

Fleet Landing resident, Colonel Beryl Hubbard, Chaplain, USAF (Ret.), delivered the benediction and, with Karen Sturtevant’s piano accompaniment, led the audience in singing “God Bless America.”

From this moving program, it was very clear that Fleet Landing will never forget the brave men and women who answered our nation’s call to serve and served the cause of freedom.

Yappy Hours

For the August 15 “Yappy Hour,” Fleet Landing provided the treats for the humans, and Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, provided her attractively packaged homemade dog biscuits for the canines. The dogs provided a serious helping of cute. The September 13 gathering was fun for all, with Faria again providing the dog biscuits, and in keeping with the canine theme, Fleet Landing provided bone-shaped sandwiches.



Left: Bone-shaped sandwiches for the humans. Right: Ida Mae gets a hug from Mary Faria.

Left: Mary Faria’s homemade dog biscuits. Right: Isobel Spink has treats and the undivided attention of (l to r) Mindy, Jack, and Maggie.



Close-up of Cooper(l) and Maggie



Dogs whose photos are appearing in the “Yappy Hour” column for the first time



Lynette and Bill Beitz and their pugs, Chloe and Dolly, are joined by Mindy. The last three named are on the lookout for treats.

Summer Concert Finale: Mama Blue

(continued from page 1)

for brief chats and photos. For a small woman (just under five feet), she has a huge voice, which drew us into her emotion, and even had a few people dancing in the back of the hall.

Mama Blue made us feel as though we were just a small group having a lovely chat and enjoying her singing. Although concerts usually last an hour and a half, Mama was clearly wound up, having so much fun that she sang a full two hours for us, and no one minded that dinner would be a little later than usual.

MOAA Town Hall

(continued from page 1)

carry it into the future. Speaking without notes, she delivered very detailed information about a wide-ranging set of topics—far too many to be summarized in this article—in a forthright manner.

Noting that Fleet Landing is a leading employer in Atlantic Beach, she was excited about our future and the role that residents can play in the various committees and volunteer organizations of the city.

Glasser said that she had avoided partisan politics and had changed her voter registration to no party affiliation, which has led to the ability to work with politicians of both parties for the betterment of Atlantic Beach. She contrasted Duval County government with City of Atlantic Beach government. The former has a strong mayoral system, while Atlantic Beach is a city manager-led system with a board of directors (the city commissioners) and a CEO (the mayor). She noted that both forms of government had a lot of learning to do when the pandemic hit and that they are still learning. They have both learned how to better handle the situation.

Other topics Glasser covered included policing, tree policy, parks (Atlantic Beach has 18!), recycling issues, parking, various public welfare problems and plans, infrastructure, hurricanes, and resiliency in the face of sea-level rise.

Audience questions capped the interesting session.

Second Atlantic Beach Parks Tour

Text and photo by Chet Davis

In the July issue of *FLEET BEAT* (page 16), we reported on the July 29 tour of Atlantic Beach parks led by Mayor Ellen Glasser. She was kind enough to offer another tour of the city's beautiful green spaces and community centers to a busload of residents for whom there was not enough room on the first tour. Glasser noted that Fleet Landing was a leading employer in the city. She expressed her appreciation for Fleet Landing residents. She said she hoped that these tours would help to get our residents more involved with the local community, which would be mutually beneficial.



The two mayors: Mayor Ellen Glasser and Lin Smith, the self-proclaimed mayor of Fleet Landing

The extensive network of parks and community centers was impressive, especially seeing those that are, in essence, hidden from public view. The work of the community centers in tutoring and other activities

for the children of the area was also highlighted.

This delightful tour was followed by lunch at Voo Swar.

If offered again, this trip is highly recommended.

Our Day on the River In Pictures

Text and photos by Patricia Payne

The first Cumberland Island river cruise had such a long waiting list that Fleet Landing offered a second trip on August 4. A bus took residents to the Amelia Island departure point along the back roads so we could enjoy the rural scenery along the way.



Our river cruise started with Amelia Island, home to famous entrepreneurs and other illustrious figures since Spain ceded it to the US in 1821.



Left: Our captain kept up an impressive monologue of history, current trends and humor for two hours!

Right: The cruise boat had covered seating throughout. Mary Faria provided box lunches that were available to us when we felt like having it. Yim Wong was among the busload of residents who enjoyed the two-hour cruise.



The derelict boat Ashlee Michele is being cleansed of toxic elements before being sunk off the South Carolina shore to attract fish.

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Our Day on the River In Pictures

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Shortly after leaving the dock we encountered a shrimp boat that was offloading freshly caught and frozen shrimp. They were still at it when we returned two hours later. The captain explained that this is the season for brown shrimp. White shrimp is also caught in these Amelia River waters.



The paper mill no longer uses this pipeline to dump wood pulp into the river. That's one reason the water is much cleaner than it was in the recent past.



After turning into the St Mary's River, we encountered some tea-colored water with lots of thick foam on top. The color results from tannins that leach out of plants and seep into ground water that drains into some lakes and streams. The foam occurs naturally. The captain explained that during the middle of the 16th century, when the French occupied the island, they used this healthful water to replenish water supplies for their ships.



Fort Clinch construction on Amelia Island began in 1847. Although the fort was never finished, it was occupied in 1861 by Confederate troops until taken by the Union Army. In 1935, it became part of the Florida Park System.



Our final destination was Cumberland Island, Georgia's largest and southernmost barrier island. Most of the few homes in the island are owned by Carnegie family members. Public access by boat is restricted to a single dock.

There was much to see during the cruise, especially if you had binoculars or a camera with a telephoto lens. The captain pointed out small herds of wild horses and other interesting sightings as we progressed.

On the way back to Amelia Island, we encountered a pod of bottlenose dolphins. As we were enjoying their antics, the captain quipped, "I think he did that on porpoise!" Altogether, it was paradoxically a stimulating and relaxing way to spend the day.

Fleet Landing in the News

By Enith Vardaman

In the July 15 edition of *The Beaches Leader*, resident Karl Price appeared in a group photo of a Beaches Kiwanis Club meeting at the Beaches Branch Library.

Resident Frances Jones contributed to the "Letters to the Editor" column of the July 29 edition of *The Beaches Leader*, and resident Steve Jarecki contributed to that column in the September 2 edition.

New residents David and Bernadette Miron contributed an article to the "Reason" section of the Sunday, September 26, edition of *The Florida Times-Union*. The article was written in commemoration of the September 22 sixtieth anniversary of the legislation founding the Peace Corps. The article outlined how the Peace Corps has benefited the 142 countries in which it has served and enhanced the image

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Fleet Landing in the News

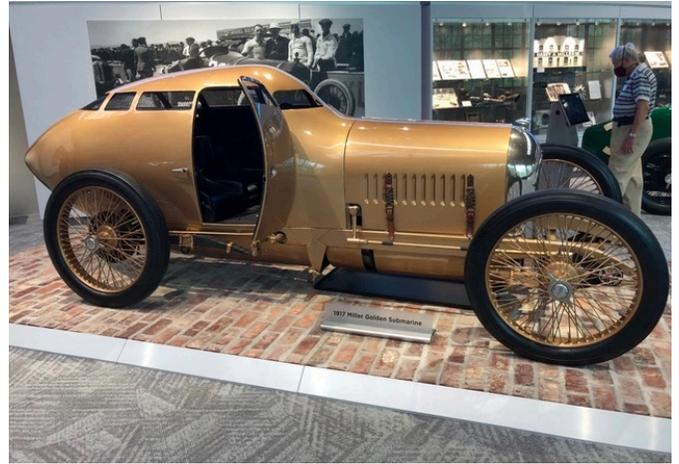
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of the United States abroad. Also cited were examples of a continuing commitment to community service on the part of the over 400 former Peace Corps volunteers living in this area. The Mirons served in Colombia from 1963-1965, and they are founders of the First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc.

Three Centuries of Race Cars

Photos by Mary Faria

Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services; Driver Chris Wellington; and a group of Fleet Landing residents toured Jacksonville’s amazing Brumos Collection on August 5. The facility’s website describes the exhibition as a collection of race cars showing the history of automotive development through three centuries. Also featured are racing memorabilia and a digital kiosk at each automobile, providing in-depth information about that car. Most of the cars can be—and are—driven. Lunch at the Florida Cracker Kitchen followed the tour.



The oldest race cars

Some close-ups



Newer race cars



At the Florida Cracker Kitchen

MOCA Tour

By Isobel Spink; photos by Ann Bell and Isobel Spink

A full busload of art enthusiasts, led by Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, toured the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in downtown Jacksonville on August 19. A museum docent first took us to see very modern paintings, photographs, and contemporary visuals. The main focus was the exhibit of Doug Eng photographs. A Jacksonville artist born in 1954, he was formerly the photographer of exhibits at MOCA, and is now a well-known exhibitor.

His works are primarily of the trees and forests of his beloved North Florida, and he uses “visual parallels between the human and natural world.” Several of his photographic displays highlight the connection between the natural world of trees and the human world of buildings. Eng minimizes both the sky and the ground in the images, so that the viewer focuses on the trees or the buildings.

As his work emphasizes the need for the preservation of Florida’s forests and wetlands, Eng works with

the North Florida Land Trust to protect Northeast Florida’s ecologically significant lands. One series of photographs, some set forward and some back, gave the impression of actually walking through the forest.

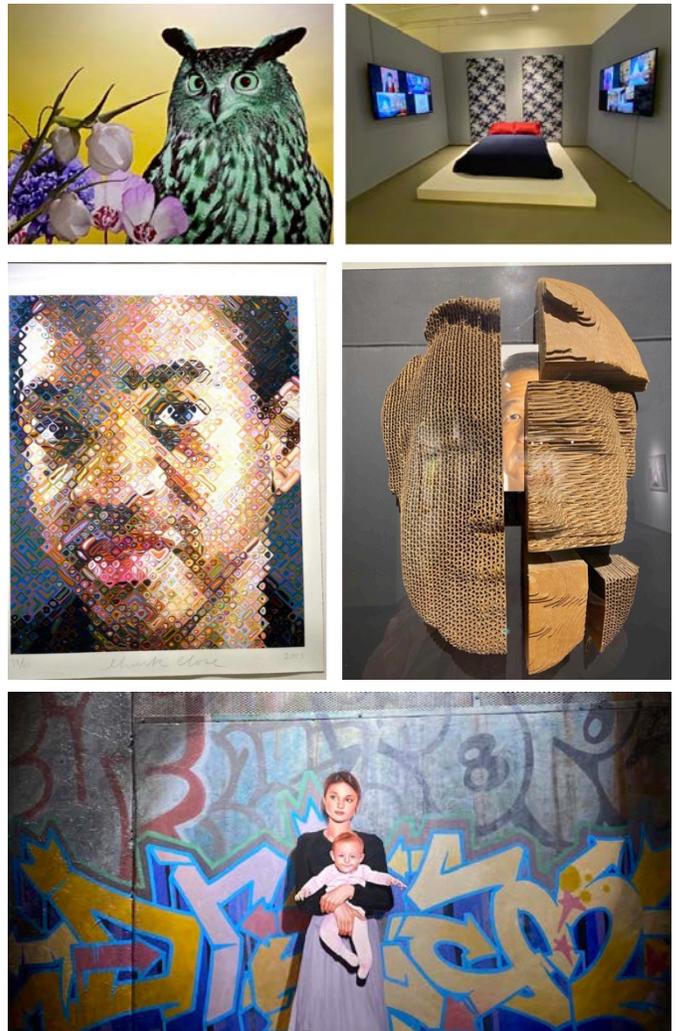
Signage at the exhibit stated, “Eng aims to transmit the feeling of therapeutic tranquility that these forests and wetlands bring to him, in the hopes that future generations will cherish and protect the important landscapes as well.” I think that all our group felt the “therapeutic tranquility” of these amazing photographs.

After touring the museum, we walked to Sweet Pete’s for a delicious lunch and milkshakes and/or ice cream sundaes. This wonderful restaurant is a magnet for childrens’ birthday parties (and Fleet Landing tour groups) with a complete shop full of cookies and candies. Chocolate tours and personal candy making. are also featured. We were each given a sample of the delicious sea salt caramels.

Selected Doug Eng Photographs



Photos of Items From MOCA’s Collection



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MOCA Tour
(continued from preceding page)
Approaching Sweet Pete's



And there was food to take home.



Saturday Outing:
Riverside Arts Market and the Cummer

The off-campus outing on August 21 was a double treat for participants. They visited the very popular Riverside Arts Market held on Saturdays under the Fuller Warren Bridge as well as the nearby Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens. With *FLEET BEAT* Photographer Ann Bell on the trip, lots of interesting photos were guaranteed.

The Arts Market



Overview



Samples of the colorful crafts



There was food to consume on site.



*Left: There was also entertainment.
Right: One of the canines enjoying the day.
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**Saturday Outing:
Riverside Arts Market and the Cummer**
(continued from preceding page)
Current Cummer Exhibits



Left: "Rebecca Louise Law: *The Journey*." This British artist used 1,200,000 dried and fresh plant materials to explore the relationship between humanity and nature.

(Exhibit ends January 9, 2022.)

Right: Poster for "Imprisoned but Empowered: Cheyenne Warrior Artists at Fort Marion." This St. Augustine fort is now known as Castillo de San Marcos.

(Exhibit ends February 27, 2022.)



"Sanctitude" by British artist Damien Hirst, one of his "Butterfly Kaleidoscope" series exploring differences between the living creature and the symbol it has become. Hirst used non-traditional media, including real butterflies. He is one of the artists featured in the exhibit "Innovation and Imagination: The Global Dialogue in Mid to Late 20th Century Art."

(Exhibit ends December 31, 2021.)

**Fiasco Into Victory:
How a Little-Known Campaign in WWII Led
to Victory**

By Howard Burdick

Or we could say "Victory Into Fiasco" for the other side. On September 14, Dean Veremakis, our doyen of military history, entranced us with a review of the German invasion of the Greek Island of Crete in May 1941. Germany had occupied Greece; and was having trouble supplying the Afrika Korps by ship across the Mediterranean, because of control of the sea by the British Royal Navy. The Germans had experimented with using airborne troops landing by gliders, or parachuting in,



which had never been attempted before. They were anxious to try this new tactic, but they rushed into it without careful enough planning. While they had sufficient troops and air support, the landings were so spread out and not synchronized that many of the early landers were slaughtered. On the other hand, there were so many landing sites that the defenders could not contain them successfully. A German attempt at an amphibious landing was thwarted by the Royal Navy.

Fighting eventually centered on a hill overlooking the principal airfield at Maleme, on the western end of the island. The New Zealand defenders fought hard, but eventually they had to abandon the hill, leading to the German capture of the airfield. The British high command had earlier decided not to block or otherwise render the airfield unusable, so German reinforcements and resupply were then landed in such abundance that the defenders had to abandon the island in what has become known as a "little Dunkirk." Germany then had good air protection for their supply convoys.

There were many mistakes on both sides, and losses were high, especially for German experienced commanders. The general and staff in charge of the operation were killed when their glider crashed after losing both wings. Germany also lost so many transport aircraft that it had a serious effect on the battle for Stalingrad, and so many airborne troops were lost that they were never used again in the war.

This operation was very detailed and can only be given a broad brush here, but it got the attention of both Churchill and Roosevelt, who had their forces establish similar airborne capabilities. Their subsequent use in the landings in Sicily and Normandy were not entirely successful, but don't tell that to anyone who ever served in the 82nd or 101st Airborne Divisions.