



FLEET BEAT

VOL. 32 No. 6

THE FLEET LANDING RESIDENTS' NEWSPAPER

July 2022

Tea With Travis

By Chet Davis



LtoR: Travis Schryer, Chris Gotschall, Rachel Carmack

The June 7 "Tea With Travis" was well attended, as shown by the empty cookie platter before the meeting started.

One focus of Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer's monthly briefing was the Coleman Center renovation project. Phase 1 of the project was nearly complete. A series of graphics showed the far more extensive changes to come during Phase 2, which was expected to be complete in the first quarter of 2023. During Phase 2, the only entrance to the Marketing office will be on the 4000 Building side of the Coleman Center. Access to the rest of the Coleman Center and the functions remaining there will be only from the front of the building. Most administrative staff will move to a trailer near North Point. Phase 3, which will primarily affect LakeView, is to be complete in the fourth quarter of 2023.

In his COVID-19 update, Schryer noted a rapid increase in cases on campus. At the time of the meeting, 16 staff members were affected, and 20 residents had tested positive in the last month. Anyone who does not feel good should stay home. Residents who test positive should contact their doctor and also Resident Support Coordinator Patty Chicoine, who can provide the necessary support.

The guest speakers for this session were Executive Chef Chris Gotschall and Dining Services Manager Rachel Carmack. Gotschall announced that Chef Patrick Aiken was no longer with Fleet Landing, and that the LakeView kitchen was now under the capable management of Sous Chefs Kelly Carpenter and Marvin Mizell. Patrick Hurley, who previously was in charge of the Compass Grill, is now Kitchen Manager at Currents. Sous Chef Dylan Setzer and his team are handling 30 North and Meridian. A search was underway for a chef de cuisine to serve those two venues. Plans for the pending upgrade to the LakeView

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Fleet Landing Participates in MOAA Convention

By Enith Vardaman



Dana Atkins installs Pat Kluever (far left) and other MOAA Florida Council of Chapters officers.



Pat Kluever (center) receives leadership award.

Fleet Landing played a significant role in the Military Officers of America Association (MOAA) Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) 45th Annual Convention. Fleet Landing residents Dick and Dory Beltson, Dante and Meg Capurro, Pat and Mary Kluever, and John and Louise Lones attended the convention which was held on June 9-12 in West Palm Beach.

Pat Kluever, president of MOAA's Fleet Landing-based Historic Mayport Chapter, who had been serving as FCoC vice president, was elected president at the convention. In addition, he received a plaque from convention coordinator, Colonel Marc Oliveri, in appreciation for his support; a leadership award from Lieutenant General Dana Atkins, President and Chief Executive Officer of the national MOAA organization; and 5-star awards for Historic Mayport Chapter's newsletter and website.

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June Residents' Council Meeting

By Howard Burdick

Residents' Council President Eileen Theis convened the June 19 meeting in Johnson Hall. She recognized Ruth and Lin Smith, who organized our 2021 award-winning Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign that raised over \$22,000. (See *FLEET BEAT*, June 2022, page 5, for details.)

Management Review. Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer noted an increase in COVID-19 cases on campus. A vaccine clinic for booster shots was scheduled for June 22 and 23. He reported on the progress of the Coleman Center remodeling and the impending move of much of the administrative staff to a large trailer on the north end of the campus. The library has been relocated to The Annex, which has been refurbished and is now available for resident activities.

Council Reports.

Vice President Nancy Russell reviewed plans for our Independence Day activities. She reported that a document with tips for newcomers had been prepared for Ambassadors to share with new residents. It can also be found on Fleet Link in the Residents' Council section.

Finance. Russell, reporting for Treasurer Bob Armacost, noted that as of April 30, operating income was just shy of \$800,000 in the red, mainly because of a low medical patient census, and the necessity for outsourced labor with its higher costs. Operating income is moving in the right direction. Cash on hand and the debt service coverage ratio are well above requirements. Fitch Ratings has affirmed our BBB rating based on strong revenue, very good demand, mid-range operating risk, and a history of solid operations.

Human Resources. Russell reported that the May Staff Member of the Month was Ymir Abellana, of Coleman Dining. Lobster Tales submitted in May numbered 162. The staff headcount is 495, and the year-to-date turnover rate is 18.6 percent. Over 25 percent of the staff have been employed here for ten or more years; and over 42 percent for five years or more. In several cases, members of the same family are employees.

Marketing and Safety and Security. Charles Winton said that independent living occupancy remained essentially full, with the 14 vacancies all claimed. There are 485 units (292 apartments and 193 houses), with 30 basic floor plans (21 for apartments, and 9 for houses). As of June 1, there were 697 independent living residents. The Atlantic Club has 462 members, with 277 waiting for houses. Year-to-date sales numbered 12. Assisted living facilities were close to full occupancy. Winton noted that Safety and Security monitored pull cords 24/7. Locator pendants are available from Safety and Security for about \$120. There were 57 incident/accident reports in May. Bicycle patrols were to begin on June 21. Intruder incidents are rare, and cameras monitor most of the campus.

Active shooter and disaster preparedness training is occurring monthly.

Wellness, Transportation, and Clubs. Jackie Mears announced that a new daily calendar of resident club events would soon be available on Fleet Link.

Dining Services and Housekeeping. Ray Bratcher said that a new LakeView menu would be coming soon, and he reviewed the current lineup of members of the food and beverage management team. Housekeeping laundry services wash and deliver approximately 480 bundles weekly for independent living residents, and provide twice weekly service to approximately 100 assisted living residents. The laundry, which is located in the Derfer Pavilion, operates seven days a week with only seven employees.

Healthcare. Janice Flock stressed the importance of good posture in maintaining overall good health in our declining years. To alleviate pain, she recommended exercise, especially stretching. She advised taking special care when lifting and carrying heavy things. When picking up prescriptions of controlled substances, she recommended counting the doses with the pharmacist to make sure the order is complete.

Facilities. Lory Doolittle reviewed recent zone inspections, the recent campus-wide cleanup, and the rehab of the Windward Commons Art Studio and The Annex.

Suggestions. Secretary Judy Poppell reviewed over 20 resident suggestions and management responses. They are too detailed to enumerate here, but can be reviewed in minutes of this meeting posted about the campus and in the library.

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All the news that fits...	
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Jacksonville's Founders and Bicentennial Tour

Text and photos by Dita Domonkos

Our June 14 tour, celebrating the bicentennial of Jacksonville, was led by the city's founder, Isaiah Hart, aka entertaining tour guide Gary Sass of AdLib Luxury Tours, dressed in 1800's garb. The city in 1822 comprised 20 blocks, now part of a downtown area bordered by Ocean Street on the west, North Catherine Street on the east, Duval Street on the north, and Bay Street on the south. June 15, 1822, is recognized as Jacksonville's founding date, as it was the first time the name Jacksonville appeared in an official record.

In 1822, after the area had become part of the United States in 1821, Hart exchanged \$72 worth of cattle for 18 acres of undeveloped land owned by Lewis Zachariah Hogans, the first settler in the area. Hart intended to make money from the location of this land along King's Road, which was named after King George. It ran south from Savannah and crossed the St. Johns River on Hart's land on the north bank at a site called Cow Ford, the narrowest part of the St. Johns River and therefore the best place to cross. At the time, Florida was cattle country, and when driven north, cattle crossed this narrowest point at low tide. Today, this site is where Liberty Street meets the river.

Taking some of the land purchased from Hogans with additional land from another early settler, John Brady, Hart created 20 blocks with the starting point at a bay tree, located at Bay and Market streets. The location of Brady's house on Block 1 was where Liberty Street was going to run according to the survey, but to preserve Brady's house, Liberty Street was extended to the east, which elongated 4 of the blocks. Hart created 6 lots on each block, selling 120 lots for \$10 each and thus making a good profit on his \$72 investment.

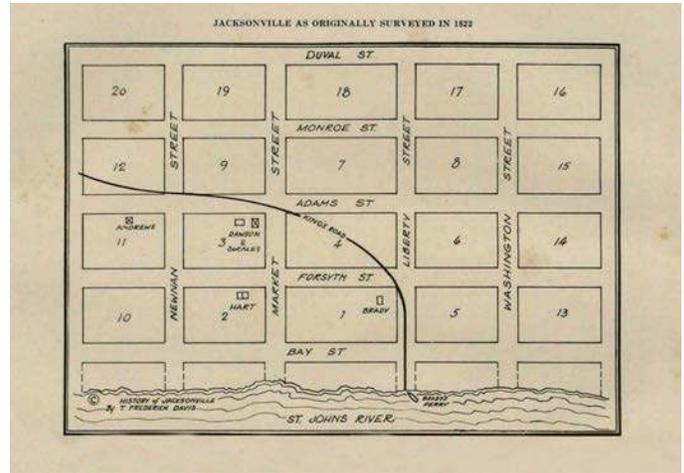
Hart was 29 years old at the time. He lived on Block 2 where he built a double log cabin, one a home, the other a store on what is now Forsyth and Market streets. As we walked in the area, Sass pointed out the location on Block 3 where Dawson and Buckles built a store selling goods for horses and farming equipment. They also built a boarding house called The Inn as traffic along the north bank grew. On Block 20, a fort, consisting of a wooden house on stilts with slits for lookouts and guns, was built in response to attacks by Seminole Indians in the 1830's.

Hart became one of the richest people in Florida; a son, Ossian, became governor of Florida; two streets in downtown Jacksonville were named after his daughters, Laura and Julia; and the town he started with 20 blocks is today a city of 841 square miles.

Of the 9 streets making up the original 20 blocks, 6 are named after patriots of the day: Adams after John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State; Monroe after the president at the time, James Monroe; Forsyth after John Forsyth, US Minister to Spain; Washington after

the first US president, George Washington; Duval, after William Pope Duval, governor of Florida; and Newnan after Daniel Newnan, military commander.

Lunch was at Spliff's Gastropub, which specializes in mac n cheese, a great end to an informative tour organized by Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services.



Map of the original 20 blocks of Jacksonville as surveyed in 1822



Left: Isaiah Hart, aka Gary Sass at the site of Cow Ford.

Right: Tree at the site of Block 1, where the survey began.



The Brewery is now on the site where Hart's double log cabin once stood.

June MOAA Meeting

By Chet Davis



Jason Canfield (l) and Brian Binder

The June 28 Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) meeting featured a farewell briefing about Naval Station Mayport by Captain Jason Canfield, departing Commanding Officer. He will be relieved by Captain Brian Binder, who also spoke at the meeting. Canfield will assume responsibilities at Navy Region Southeast, which is headquartered at Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

Canfield was introduced by Pat Kluever, president of the Historic Mayport Chapter of MOAA. Canfield began by thanking the Navy for the chance to command Naval Station Mayport and noted that he was the first non-helicopter pilot (he is a Naval Flight Officer) to have that command. Canfield described his role in providing behind-the-scenes service, such as water and electricity, to 84 tenant commands, over 11,000 personnel, 972 single family homes, and more on a daily basis. He noted that he would not miss the relentless text messages and phone calls that came with this responsibility.

Canfield cited other interesting facts about Mayport: There are more ships than berthing space, so ships must “nest.” The base has no physical ground for expansion, it has received the most construction money of any base in the Southeast Region, and it has a sound future, as it will be receiving ships from ongoing construction. The base is in the process of constructing missile storage so that Mayport ships will not have to travel to Yorktown, VA, to load missiles. Canfield also said that resiliency issues brought about by climate change were being addressed in close cooperation with the City of Atlantic Beach.

At the conclusion of his talk, Canfield took questions from the Johnson Hall audience. In response to a question concerning the status of complaints about military privatized housing provider Balfour Beatty, he said that there had been no serious problems with the company locally. Other questions concerned the commissary (it is having supply issues like other stores) and the littoral combat ship (LCS) status (if not these ships, other new ships will come to Mayport). He closed by expressing appreciation for his relationship with Fleet Landing.

Kluever then introduced Binder, whose first duty

station was Mayport, where he is now returning.

Binder told of his very first deployment to a cruiser. His wife was seven months pregnant when he got to the base, into his helicopter, and took off. When those aboard the helicopter arrived at the ship, they were given an immediate and most unusual green deck (permission to land immediately). Upon landing, they discovered that the events of 9/11 were taking place. He said that event gave him a deeper insight into those who had served before and cemented his dedication to serving and protecting the country. Fortunately, the ship returned in time for the birth of his first child. Binder also noted how Mayport has evolved over the years. He thanked MOAA’s Historic Mayport Chapter for inviting him to speak.

Bel Suono (Beautiful Sound)

By Chet Davis



Indeed, harpist Kayo Ishimaru and flutist Rhonda Cassano presented beautiful sound during a June 10 Johnson Hall performance that was part of the “2022 Music Series” underwritten by residents Walter and Cynthia Graham. The appreciative audience found the concert, twice-postponed since 2020, well worth the wait.

Cassano and Ishimaru, both of the Jacksonville Symphony, provided a varied program that included pieces by well-known and less prominent composers as well as a folk tune. They also offered interesting information about the composers and the works.

Concertgoers are rarely able to appreciate the beauty and versatility of the harp, as it is usually obscured by the rest of the orchestra. This performance was a unique opportunity to see the harp in close proximity and to experience its full range in the works performed. Ishimaru also spoke about and demonstrated the capabilities of her harp. She noted the challenges of being an itinerant harp player, given the size of the instrument she has to transport.

Cassano and Ishimaru have performed in “Music Series” concerts of earlier years, and a return visit would be welcome.

Resident Art Exhibits Move to Windward Commons

By Patricia Payne

“When will there be another exhibit?” became a frequently asked question ever since impending renovations to the Coleman Center were first announced. In response, the Art Club Exhibits Committee has worked closely with Fleet Landing senior administration to create exhibit space in Windward Commons. Phase 1 of the new space opened in May. It is located on the blue wall known as “Massage Alley,” which leads from left of the reception desk to the fitness area at the back of the building. Supplies are on order for phase 2, which will extend the exhibit space into the gathering room outside Johnson Hall. Exhibits will be changed every three months. The Art Club is providing printed information listing exhibited items. It can be found at the reception desk.

As promised in the June issue of *FLEET BEAT*, this article will describe what is currently on display.

Painter and weaver **Sarah Lamont** is inspired by the colors of the Southwest—where she lived before moving to Fleet Landing—as illustrated in her “Golden Sunset” wool and cotton tapestry. Photos transmitted from the Hubble Telescope have moved her to paint beautifully splashy acrylic paintings such as “Delight in Color.”

Judy Barton cuts up porcelain and mirrors, then reassembles the pieces to create strikingly beautiful art. Although it is a pretty heavy piece, Judy has managed to express the delicacy of the subject in her “Mirrored Butterfly” mosaic.

Ceramicist **Veronika Jenke** has finished similar pieces with different glazes in her wood-glazed “Folded I” and salt-glazed “Folded II” stoneware wall art.

Although **Richard Lundgren** is nationally recognized for his pastel work, he has been painting with acrylics since moving to Fleet Landing. His “Sawgrass Sunrise” depicts the natural beauty of the morning reflected in the water. “A Wave and a Catch” captures the strength of the osprey as it carries home a prize catch.

Sally Pitard is attracted to subjects that evoke warm or sympathetic feelings in the viewer, as evidenced in her watercolors, “Two Boys and Their Dog” and “Pigmy Rabbit (Endangered Species).”

Painter and photographer **Glenn Perry** often paints landscapes, sometimes *en plein air*. His oil paintings in this exhibit depict water in different moods. “Spring River Souvenir” is serene and calm, while “Great Falls Flume” is dynamic and exciting.

Acrylics painter **Julia Pet-Armacost** loves coastal scenes. In this exhibit, her “A Windy Day at the Beach” is punctuated by a red wooden dinghy that contrasts effectively with the windblown palm tree.

Peggy Holz is known for her realistic pastel works such as “Oystering” in the current exhibit. Since moving

to Fleet Landing, she is painting with acrylics. Her favorite medium is oil.

Acrylics painter **Jelena Gill** often seems to be expressing a mood or opinion in her work. For example, “Defiance in Time of C-19” reflects how our world shrank during the isolation phase of the pandemic, when life had to struggle for resilience. In contrast, the more colorful and more detailed “Beyond the Familiar” provides a path to something more satisfying.

Watercolorist **Stella Bratcher** (also known as Chung Yi) often paints landscapes. Many depict her surroundings during her years living in upstate New York. “A Fine Day” evokes a lovely image of rural life. It has a strong sense of distance. On the other hand, “Wild Flower” is a closeup.

Barbara Milon is a master of many mediums. “Heron” is a collage made up of found and enhanced elements that come together to form a heron. Unusual and effective! “Chez Giselle” is an oil painting of a rural scene. The viewer looks across a large field of yellow flowers towards a distant red barn.

Christine Stanley’s photograph “Palm Sunday Sunrise From 20th Street Beach Access” is a striking scene of early morning Atlantic Beach—elegant in its symmetry.

Bo Smith has two very different pieces in this exhibit. His large “Snowy Egret” is done with colored pencil. Impressive! Equally impressive—in a different way—is his acrylic painting, “Being Thirteen.” It evokes a feeling of nostalgia for small-town America, and it makes the viewer wonder what it must have been like to grow up there.

Tom Dames has two impressionist watercolors in this exhibit. “Baltic Summer” is a very colorful and loosely styled watercolor of a fishing village. It appears to be a lovely place to spend some time. “Back Door” is a monochrome depiction of the back porch adorned with pots of flowers. He makes it look easy!

Lynn Blakemore’s love of color is evident in her two prints included in this exhibit. “Jekyll Island Resort Club” is fairly typical of her beautiful architectural watercolor paintings. “A Field of Flowers for Julie” presents a different perspective in that the building is extremely distant from the viewer, who searches across a vast field of yellow flowers to find it.

Imogene Coleman’s sense of color enhances her still life acrylic paintings. “Wine Time” is a lovely example of her talent for creating art that enlivens the home. It’s not surprising that she enjoyed a successful career as an interior designer.

Watercolorist **Bunny Morgan** combines a loose painting style with strong color to infuse her florals with freshness. Her “Nasturtiums” glow in a garden setting; and her “Poinsettia” pops from a shadowy background.

John Hen likes to paint people. His paintings now on exhibit tell stories. “Piano Man in New York Square”

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Resident Art Exhibits Move to Windward Commons

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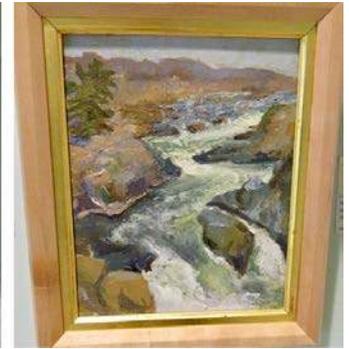
depicts, in watercolor and acrylic on canvas, a pianist as he entertains only a few patrons. One of the listeners is wearing a mask, which might explain the sparse audience. The girl lying down and taking refuge under the piano adds interest. His watercolor, "Boys Will Be Boys," shows two boys—apparently dragged along on a shopping trip—giggling as they cavort among the merchandise. Their expressions make the viewer smile.

An accomplished artist, **Susie Canon** can paint portraits. This exhibit includes two, rendered in oils. "Me in '93" is a self portrait; "Michael in '93" is a portrait of her late husband.

Helen Craig used strong strokes and intense colors to express a doctor's dedication, fatigue, and stress in her acrylics painting, "Care and Contemplation." A remarkable accomplishment.

Craig Miller is a highly accomplished painter who has mastered a variety of mediums. His two lush watercolors, "Balinese Family Temple" and "Balinese Statue," illustrate his preference for the path less traveled.

Patricia Payne loves to paint birds and watery environments. She used intense neutrals to anchor the lighter and brighter colors in "Another Lake View," a watercolor of a heron standing in a sunlit marshy lake.



Left: Sally Pitard's "Two Boys and Their Dog."
Right: Glenn Perry's "Great Falls Flume."

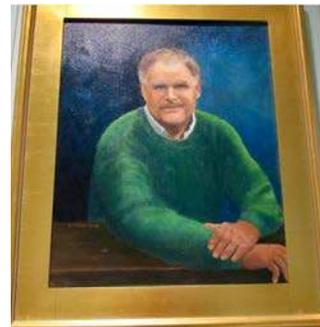


Left: Christine Stanley's "Palm Sunday Sunrise From 20th Street Beach Access."
Right: Peggy Holz's "Oystering."

Art Exhibit: The Works



Left: Sarah Lamont's "Delight in Color."
Right: Judy Barton's "Mirrored Butterfly."



Left: Susie Canon's "Michael in '93."
Right: Helen Craig's "Care and Contemplation."



Left: Veronika Jenke's "Folded I."
Right: Jelena Gill's "Beyond the Familiar."



Left: Craig Miller's "Balinese Statue."
Right: John Hen's "Piano Man in New York Square."
(continued on next page)

Art Exhibit: The Works

(continued from preceding page)



Left: Julia Pet-Armacost's "A Windy Day at the Beach."
Right: Richard Lundgren's "A Wave and a Catch."



Left: Imogene Coleman's "Wine Time."
Right: Bunny Morgan's "Poinsettia."



Left: Barbara Milon's "Heron."
Right: Tom Dames's "Back Door."



Left: Patricia Payne's "Another Lake View."
Right: Stella Bratcher's "A Fine Day."



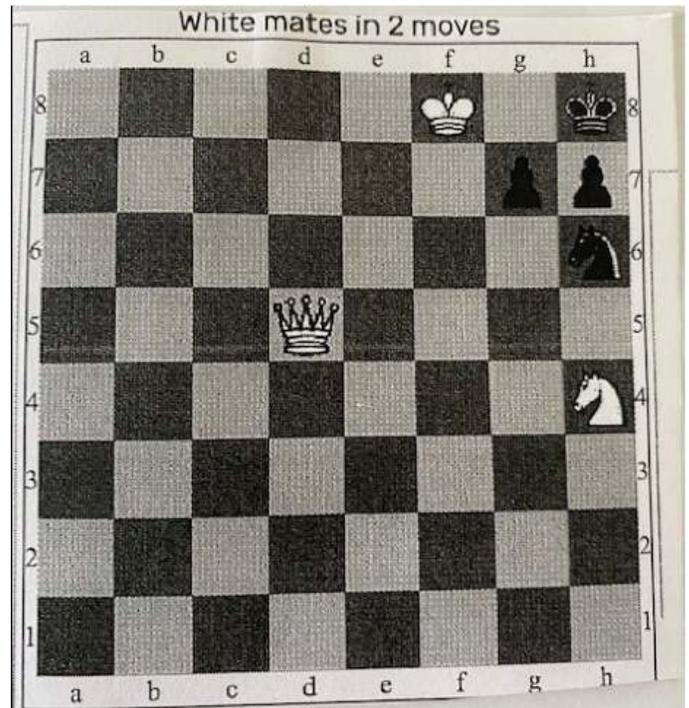
Left: Lynn Blakemore's "Jekyll Island Resort Club."
Right: Bo Smith's "Being Thirteen."

Chess Club News

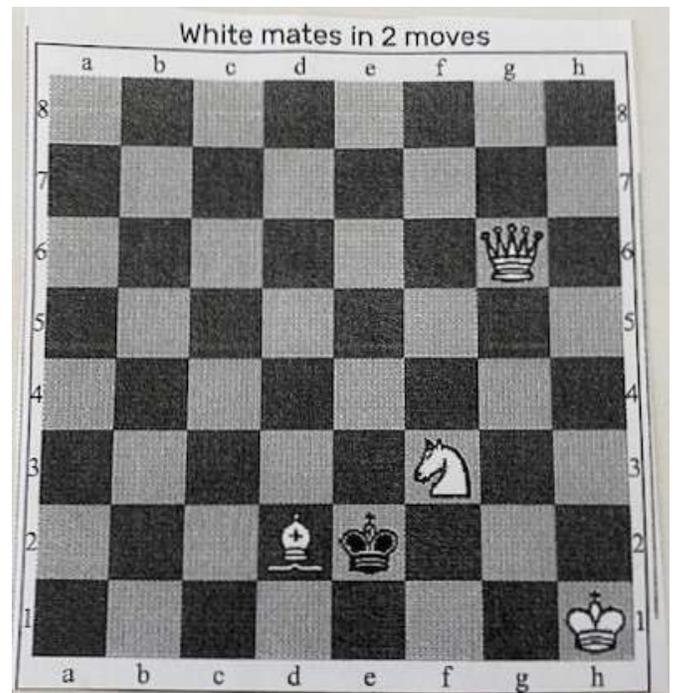
By Richard Wong

Benefits of playing chess: develops perspective, improves memory, deepens focus, elevates creativity, and boosts planning skills. By challenging one's memory, calculation, visual-spatial skills, and critical thinking abilities, it may help reduce cognitive decline and postpone the effects of dementia as you age.

The Chess Club meets Tuesdays at 1 pm in the Windward Commons lobby.



This month's chess puzzle



Last month's puzzle answer is Queen to C2

Tea With Travis

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menu, which will have more choices, were in direct response to resident feedback.

Carmack began by naming her Dining Services Supervisors: Drew Simpson (healthcare dining), Chris Schooley and Merlita Tablada (LakeView), and Meghan Simpson (Mainstreet). She spoke about the importance of the training of new staff. She said that within the next few weeks added staff would permit 30 North to be opened for more reservations on a daily basis. A waitlist has been added to the 30 North reservation form.

All in all, a very informative and interesting meeting that ended with a wide variety of questions and comments. Of note, a section of dock will be added near the 4000 Building to accommodate a kayak and paddle board launch.

Chips & Putts

By Carol Smith; photo by Bob Mills

Fleet Landing golfers have been honing their skills in the weekly Golf Specific Training class led by Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard. The winning team at the June 9 Fleet Landing Golf Tournament, held at the Windsor Parke Golf Club, demonstrated the results of these efforts: Rick Rochelle (captain), Larry Magner, John Coman, and Lee Spancake placed first with a score of 36. Because of the extreme heat, the tournament was limited to nine holes. Also playing well, Maura Kelly's team of Bruce Osborne, Pat Patterson, and Price Schwenck came in second with 37. Only one point separated how all the teams placed. The team headed up by Sharyn Roettger, along with Bob Neal, John Wortman, and Jerry Bowles claimed third place with a score of 38. In fourth place was Sergei Ourusoff's team with a score of 39. The fifth place team, with a score of 40, was led by Bob Peterson. Two teams tied for sixth place with scores of 41. Bob Springer and Miles Nogelo led their teammates.

"Longest Drive" trophies were claimed by Nancy Sander for the ladies and Bunky Johnson for the men. Neal won the "Closest to the Pin" award for the men. None of the ladies qualified. Rochelle awarded the "Sand-bagger Trophy" to Spancake, who made a birdie putt on the 9th hole to seal the team's victory. The "Birdie



"Birdie Trophy" fashioned by Nick Malie out of an old golf club, three spoons, and two forks

Trophy" was awarded by Peterson to Bob Mills, who hit a long approach shot that rolled to within 3 feet of the pin. The putt was good for the team's single birdie.

The traditional Golf Dinner was held that evening with an excellent buffet provided by the LakeView dining staff. Tournament results and prizes were presented. Everyone at the awards dinner cheered the news that the Fleet Landing putting green between the north side of Windward Commons and North Point will be installed in July and available for play.

The next monthly Fleet Landing Golf Tournament, planned for nine holes because of the hot weather, will be held at Hidden Hills Golf Club on July 14.

Duo Beaux Arts

By Chet Davis



Fleet Landing residents were treated to the piano artistry of the husband and wife team of Tao Lin and Dr. Catherine Lan in Johnson Hall on June 13. This lively couple, performing as Duo Beaux Arts, is on tour and stopped here en route to a concert in Sarasota, FL. Their piano skill kept everyone watching their unbelievably fast fingers on the keyboard. Lan had performed at Fleet Landing before, appearing on July 7, 2021, with violinist Huifang Chen as part of Duo Formosa.

The works played were by French composers. The two performed pieces by Debussy, Fauré, and Chabrier together on Fleet Landing's Petrof piano. Lin soloed on Debussy's *Clair de lune* and *L'isle joyeuse*. Lan performed Ravel's *Une barque sur l'océan* as a solo. This piece portrays a smooth sea followed by a violent storm, which the small boat survives.

The entire concert was warmly received, and a return visit by the Duo Beaux Arts would be welcome.

After the concert, the couple answered several questions from the audience, including one about the Petrof piano. Lin noted that Petrof, a company founded in what is now the Czech Republic and still headquartered there, produces good pianos.

Fleet Landing Participates in MOAA Convention

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Kathy DeSiena addresses Casino Night attendees as Jill Pennington holds a gift basket about to be awarded to the lucky winner of a drawing.



Fleet Landing couples gathered at the blackjack table on Casino Night.

Sales and Marketing Senior Living Counselors Kathy DeSiena and Jill Pennington were on hand at Fleet Landing’s display at the convention and also at Casino Night, which Fleet Landing generously sponsored. Casino Night was a charity event, with all the proceeds going to the MOAA Foundation to support scholarships/community outreach grants to help service members, veterans, and their families. Reportedly, the Beltsons, Capurros, and Loneses spent a successful evening at the blackjack table.

In Memoriam

Bea Beckenbach
1927-2022
Bob Eckert
1931-2022

Jane Burdick
1935-2022
Virginia Mellott
1921-2022

Delight Omohundro
1933-2022

French Open Weekend

By Carol Smith; photos by Alisa Blanchard



While Coco Gauff gamely represented the United States in the June 4 French Open women’s final, Fleet Landing tennis players enjoyed a Saturday morning of drills to improve their game. University of North Florida tennis standouts, Cameron Blanchard and Sahil Deshukh, helped perfect players’ forehands, backhands, overheads, and serves. When told that serving practice was unnecessary, they were a bit shocked to learn that there are no double faults in Fleet Landing tennis. Players keep serving until they get one in. The current record is 28 attempts! Organized by Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard, an avid tennis player herself, the morning on Fleet Landing’s tennis court was fun for participants and “fans” as well. Everyone enjoyed the mimosas and French pastries before heading home to watch the final set of the women’s championship in Paris.

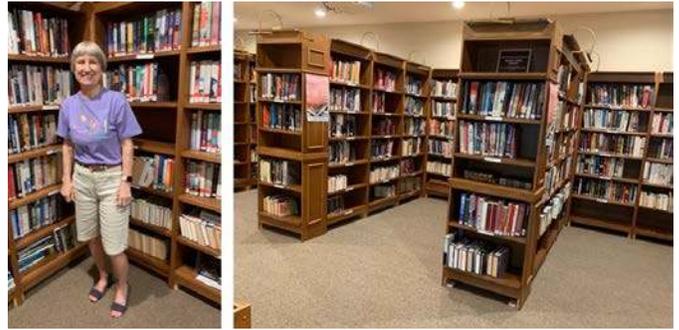
Sunday morning brought tennis fans together once again in the Windward Commons lounge to watch the men’s final together. Enjoying jambon-beurre sandwiches and libations, everyone watched Rafael Nadal win his 22nd Grand Slam. And, to make his victory personal and special to the tennis fans there, Blanchard shared her Nadal-autographed tennis ball that she caught at the US Open in 2018.

Library Notes

By Enith Vardaman; photos by Jennifer Arsenault and Enith Vardaman



Boxes of packed books



Left: Eva Sprinkle pauses from the task of straightening up books that had fallen on their side during the move. Right: Partial view of the library in its temporary space.



Left: Shrink-wrapped bookshelves. Right: Enith Vardaman (l) and Jennifer Arsenault are all smiles as preparations for the move wind down.

Relocating/reconstituting the Dinda Library in The Annex required a great deal of planning and effort. The first consideration was that there was only enough room to house roughly two-thirds of the collection. What could not be accommodated had to be put in storage on campus. Executive Assistant Jennifer Arsenault and Library Committee Chair Enith Vardaman packed some 65 boxes of books over a period of several days. Some lesser used parts of the collection were given away. This will make room for expansion of the more widely used classifications when the library reopens in the Coleman Center. The shelves of books that would fit in The Annex were shrink wrapped and transferred by professional movers.

Thanks to these efforts, the library will function during the renovation of the Coleman Center, but there are caveats. Please be aware of the following:

- The movers made a serious effort to put the shelves back in the proper order, but given the difficulty of a project involving the move of heavy shelves of books into limited space, not everything is in the right place.

- Large print fiction (red stripes or dots) and large print non-fiction (green stripes or dots) can each be found in two different locations. Fortunately, the colored stripes and dots make these books easy to spot.

- Despite the shrink wrap, some books shifted in transit and will be out of alphabetical order within a classification or, in some cases, in the wrong classification. Vardaman and Library Committee member Eva Sprinkle straightened up books that had fallen on their side during the move, but restoring perfect order was not feasible. That will come when the library is reconstituted in the Coleman Center.

- The list of classifications that are in storage have been posted on flyers made by Arsenault.

Reminder: No donations can be accepted until the library returns to the Coleman Center.



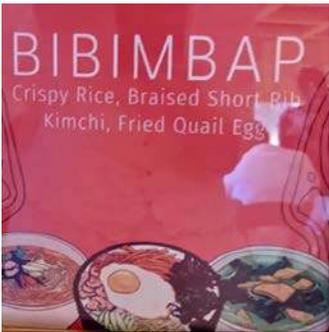
Shrink-wrapped bookshelves were secured on a utility trailer.



Transfer to The Annex underway

Cummer Asian Night Market: A Street Food Dinner Party

Text and photos by Dita Domonkos



The “Asian Night Market: A Street Food Dinner Party” on June 25 celebrated the opening of a new exhibit at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens. “Buddha and Shiva, Lotus and Dragon: Masterworks from the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd Collection at Asia Society,” represents the history and cultures of Asia. The exhibition inspired the dinner party and evening’s entertainment, which started as visitors entered the museum, greeted by two dancers dressed in traditional kimonos and gracefully moving to soft music. After a photo of partygoers in front of cherry blossoms, lychee-based drinks were offered.

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Cummer Asian Night Market: A Street Food Dinner Party

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Lory Doolittle, Fleet Landing resident and Exhibition Season Sponsor, greeted the Fleet Landing bus and led residents into the evening's festivities. Colorful paper lanterns and umbrellas contributed to a joyful air as did the tables with red tablecloths. Food stands under colorful umbrellas and signs offered delicacies representing many Asian cultures with fare such as Bibimbap, consisting of crispy rice, braised short ribs, kimchi, and fried quail egg; shrimp, chicken, pork, and veggie dumplings; dim sum; roasted duck and fried rice; papaya salad; bao buns with glazed pork belly, hoisin, pickled daikon, carrots, and scallions; wok-seared vegetables; and green tea ice cream. Entertainment was sensational and varied and contributed to the Asian theme. A musician played an assortment of Asian instruments, artists on site painted and created paper cut out images, dancers performed, and Chinese dragons accompanied by drummers were the grand finale.

The exhibition that inspired this festive party consists of 67 masterpieces of three-dimensional objects comprising sculptures, ceramics, and bronzes from across all Asian cultures, including China, Japan, Vietnam, Korea, Pakistan, Cambodia, Tibet, and India, and from the 6th century BC to the 19th century. The Rockefellers realized at the end of WWII that we were part of a global society, and that through art we gain insight into other cultures and create bridges for engagement. The exhibit presents work of exceptional quality showing technological innovation and artistic mastery.

It is an understatement to say that the evening was fun, delightful, and exuberant, reflecting the excellent exhibition that inspired the food and festivities and its host, the Cummer Museum. The exhibit runs through September 18.

Mindfulness Workshop

By Carol Smith

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) was the topic of the day at the "Mindfulness ... It's Not What You Think" session in the Windward Commons Mindfulness Classroom on June 25. Led by local attorney, David Sacks, a group of 30 residents was introduced to the practice of mindfulness with a mixture of instruction, guided meditation, and open group discussion. Sacks is a certified instructor of the MBSR program developed by Dr. Jon Kabat-Zinn at the Massachusetts General Hospital, which is affiliated with Harvard University. Studies show MBSR to be effective at addressing chronic pain, anxiety, and depression as well as at general stress reduction.

Pleased with the experience, many participants expressed their interest in enrolling in the eight-week MBSR program. The course helps develop mindful

awareness through a variety of meditation and movement practices. The course would be sponsored by Fleet Landing's Wellness Department, and residents are encouraged to contact Jennifer Joy, Director Wellness Services, to let her know of their interest.

Fleet Landing's Mindfulness Matters club will be working with Wellness to organize more events like the MBSR retreat scheduled for later this year. Interested persons should contact resident Cynthia Graham in order to add their names to the email list and receive advance notice of upcoming events.

Deck Replacement Progress

Photos by Enith Vardaman

Work is underway on replacement of the railings and on the lighting upgrade.



The framework of the new railings are in place along the side of the 1000 Building. The new lights are visible on the post in the foreground.



Railings along the front of the 2000 Building and the side of the 3000 Building have been removed and replaced with temporary barriers.

Sea Dragon Airboat Tour

By Carol Smith
Photos by Ann Bell and Carol Smith



Anxious to be on the water on the lovely morning of June 28, twenty-one residents boarded the bus for the drive to St. Augustine. Awaiting them were boat captains with Sea Serpent Tours ready to transport them through the backwaters of Six Mile Creek. Slowly winding their way through the lily pads, passengers spotted alligators, manatees, and turtles. Once arriving on open water, the captain cranked up the engine of the airboat to 40 mph, offering an exciting ride.

Having worked up an appetite from their big adventure, everyone enjoyed lunch at Woodpeckers Backyard BBQ and expressed their appreciation to Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, for putting together another fun adventure.

Flag Day/US Army Birthday



Flag Day and the US Army's 247th birthday were observed on June 14 with a ceremonial flag raising at the Flag Plaza.

Fire! Fire! Fire!

Text and photo by Tom Hilton



The sign, visible over the shoulder of the recently enthroned Pool Champion Scotty Willis, says it all. Scotty's pool game was "too hot to handle," as our Billiards Club Vice President John Pawek discovered. We could not "put out his fire." I was one of the 15 wannabes (13 men, 2 women) who appeared at our beautiful pool room on the second floor of Windward Commons with our best game, trying to put out "fires," but we did not prevail. Congratulations to Scotty!

The signup sheet for the Summer Pool Tournament is on the bulletin board in the Coleman Center. Please consider joining us sometime in one of these pool tournaments.

Stetson Mansion Guided Past & Present Tour

Text and photos by Dita Domonkos



An 1886 Gilded Age Mansion in DeLand, Florida? Indeed. On June 22, we toured the restored Stetson Mansion built 135 years ago by John B. Stetson, creator and manufacturer of the popular cowboy hat. Our enthusiastic guide, Joanne, pointed out the mansion's original, magnificent parquet floors, with a different pattern in each of 16 rooms; beautiful detailed carved moldings; stained and leaded glass windows created by Stetson's friend, Lewis Comfort Tiffany; and electricity and fuse box installed by another friend, Thomas Edison. The house was one of the first with electricity and indoor plumbing. The mansion is now privately owned.

The furnishings are not original, although some are period pieces. The mansion is a modest 10,000 square feet, downsized at the insistence of Stetson's third and much younger wife, Elizabeth, who preferred living in cosmopolitan Philadelphia, home of the Stetson factory, to the wilds of Central Florida. The vacation home welcomed many distinguished visitors, including the Vanderbilts, President Cleveland, and Henry Flagler.

The site was originally 300 acres and had citrus trees, pineapple, and sugarcane. Flagler was a good friend of Stetson and brought a spur of his railroad onto Stetson's property to offload building materials during construction and bring visitors directly to the house. The house had several bathrooms, and between Elizabeth's and John's bedrooms was the nursery, its typical placement in Victorian times. Since doors were

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Stetson Mansion Guided Past & Present Tour

(continued from preceding page)

taxed at that time, closets usually didn't have them, but Stetson was so wealthy, his did. The third floor had a trunk room and ladies' maid and guest rooms.

Stetson, son of a hatter, owed his wealth to the cowboy hat, which he created during his brief time mining gold in the West. At first, his hats did not sell well, so he spent a year perfecting the elegant, waterproof, durable hat which became known as "The Boss of the Plains." To combat the stereotype of hatters as an undesirable job, he treated workers well, giving high wages, building a hospital for them with free medical care, and providing meeting rooms for worship and childcare. To help his traveling salesmen sell the bulky hats, he created miniature versions of all styles from which buyers could choose. The company was so successful that it was selling over 5 million hats yearly during its heyday. The Stetson hat was associated with celebrities, including Roy Rogers, Clint Eastwood, and Greta Garbo.

After Stetson's death in 1906, his son, Henry, took over and expanded the business to include a wider variety of styles and hats for women and children. He expanded the Western line to include belts, boots, and buckles. In the 1960's hat wearing declined due to two factors. President Kennedy didn't wear a hat to his inauguration as it was too windy, thus inadvertently setting the trend for hatless heads. About the same time, the Vatican said women would not have to wear hats to Catholic services. Today the Stetson name is owned by Hatco, and the line now includes a Stetson bourbon and Stetson cologne.

A box lunch was enjoyed in the garden at the conclusion of the tour. The day trip, organized by Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, was a delightful journey back to a time when everyone wore hats.

Editor's note: Photography is not allowed inside the house. Photos of the interior were downloaded from the Stetson Mansion website.

Fleet Landing in the News

By Enith Vardaman

An article titled "Out of Our City's Past" appeared in the June 18 edition of *The Florida Times-Union*. The article, written in connection with Jacksonville's bicentennial, provided information about people who have made the city what it is today. The late Frances Bartlett Kinne, a Fleet Landing resident, was among those named.

The name of two Fleet Landing residents appeared in the June 30 edition of *The Beaches Leader*. Frances Jones contributed to the "Letters to the Editor" column. Karl Price was quoted in connection with a Kiwanis-sponsored installation of a "musical garden," for all to use free of charge, in Atlantic Beach's Jordan Park.

The garden includes five bongo drums, four metal flowers, and a tree. Each flower petal and branch of the tree makes a different tone when struck by the attached gong.

Painting Beautiful Birds Together

Text and photos by Patricia Payne



Sunni Myers (standing) and some of the artists



Some of the paintings

During the COVID-19-induced isolation, the Wellness Department sponsored several "Painting With a Twist" at-home projects to keep residents intellectually stimulated. Now that the "great isolation" is over, and both the Art Studio and residents are refreshed, Wellness was able to host a group painting event. On June 17, Sunni Myers, owner of Gogh Create, conducted a "Beautiful Bird Painting Workshop" that had a group of residents painting a bird of their choice together. Myers uses her skills as an artist to engage participants and encourage them to have fun as they try something new. She provided all the materials needed to create an acrylic painting.

During the workshop, moans and groans were heard across the studio. That prompted your reporter to recall that another participant, Carla Philcox, had once advised her to "throw the painting under the bed, wait two weeks, and then look at it." After the laughter subsided, many were wanting to see what might be thrown under Philcox's bed!

This workshop was an intellectually and socially stimulating experience.

June WELLInspired Learning Series



LtoR: Doug Schilling, Jennifer Joy, Sue Dukes

The speaker at the June 1 “WELLInspired Learning Series” talk was Doug Schilling, a licensed clinical social worker, who is manager of the Professional Development Department at Community Hospice and Palliative Care. Jennifer Joy, Director, Wellness Services, and local nutrition consultant Sue Dukes spoke at the June 29 session. The talks were held in Johnson Hall.

Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders

Doug Schilling began by stating that dementia is not a disease. It is an umbrella term for symptoms usually caused by Alzheimer’s Disease and related disorders (ADRD). There are over 100 causes. Dementia is a gradual loss of intellectual and social abilities severe enough to interfere with daily function.

Alzheimer’s is by far the most common form of dementia (70 percent of cases). Other forms include vascular, Lewy body, frontotemporal, mild cognitive impairment, and mixed dementia (vascular and Alzheimer’s).

Schilling cited disturbing statistics. Dementia is the sixth leading cause of death in the US. Between 2000 and 2015, heart disease declined by 11 percent, while deaths from Alzheimer’s rose 123 percent. One in three seniors dies from Alzheimer’s or another dementia. Every 65 seconds someone in the US develops this disease. By 2050, an estimated 14 million Americans will be living with Alzheimer’s, up from the current 5.7 million.

What happens in the brain with dementia? Signals to the brain move across synapses with an electrical charge. ADRD attacks and disrupts this transmission. Plaques and tangles in the brain’s neurons interfere with the cell transport system. Imaging techniques can show lost brain sections.

Schilling cited signs of Alzheimer’s versus signs of simple aging. Signs of the former include lost memory, difficulty remembering routine tasks, poor comprehension, inability to follow directions, increased problems with dates, poor judgement, losing or misplacing things frequently, mood changes with no apparent reason, major personality changes, and sitting and staring with no enjoyment of a situation.

There are three stages of Alzheimer’s. The early stage may begin 20 years before the diagnosis. The middle stage lasts from 2 to 10 years, and the late stage may last from 1 to 5 years.

Schilling’s suggestions for early-stage caregiving in-

cluded the following: Try to understand what the person means when the communication is confusing; offer a guess when a person is stuck on a word; use simple, short sentences; give one-step directions; avoid use of pronouns, slang, comparisons, and figures of speech; be willing to repeat yourself; allow time for responses.

The middle-stage may require the caregiver to deal with behaviors such as physical agitation, screaming, wandering, hoarding, and cursing.

Late-stage caregivers need to be calm and patient. They can emphasize non-verbal communication such as waving goodbye. They may use photos and music when speaking and understanding words has become difficult. Most importantly, always treat the person with dignity and respect.

There are several communication goals for caregivers: Focus on long-term memory; create an atmosphere of acceptance, focusing on strengths and positives; provide reassurance; and create successful experiences. Things to avoid saying include “I just told you that,” or “Your brother died ten years ago.” Do not ask open-ended questions; or give long, complex instructions; or address the individual as “honey,” “love,” or “dear.”

Patients who have become non-verbal may attempt to communicate through vocalizations, moaning, disruptive behavior, or grimacing.

Schilling cited wisdom from an unknown source: “If you have met one person with dementia, you’ve only met one person. That is, each individual will talk, act, remember, and behave differently. Not simply because of what stage of dementia they are in, but because they are who they are.”

Brain Fit

Jennifer Joy and Sue Dukes began by citing age, genetics, and family history as uncontrollable factors affecting cognitive decline. However, their talk focused on seven controllable factors: sleep, comorbid conditions, social support, stress, cognitive stimulus, physical activity, and diet.

Sleep is important in a number of brain functions, including how nerve cells communicate with one another. It plays a housekeeping role, removing toxins from the brain. Chronic lack of sleep, or getting poor quality sleep, can produce a higher risk of comorbidities such as high blood pressure, depression, and obesity.

Cognitive stimulation can be encouraged by such activities as learning an instrument. Activities like ballroom dancing or Zumba, which also involve movement and coordination, were recommended.

Stress is part of life. What is important is how you control it. Seeking professional help is an option, and exercise is a stress reliever.

According to the Mayo Clinic, physical activity—30 minutes per day—is the most powerful and effective intervention strategy, regardless of the type of cognitive decline.

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June WELLInspired Learning Series

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The MIND diet, a hybrid of the Mediterranean and DASH diets, emphasizes foods impacting brain health. Elements of this diet are: leafy green vegetables, berries, nuts, olive oil, beans, lentils, and fatty fish. A small amount of wine (4 ounces) is good, but too much alcohol is harmful. A combination of healthful foods provides the necessary amounts of omegas, choline, and lutein.

Residents of Fleet Landing have many options for dealing with controllable factors affecting cognitive decline. For example, group exercise classes, bike rides, and beach walks offer physical activity, and support groups, mindfulness practices, yoga, tai chi, and qigong help cope with stress.

Coleman Center Renovation Progress

Photos by Ann Bell, Ed Hollender, and Enith Vardaman

Phase 2 of the renovation of the Coleman Center is visibly underway.



Former mail room



Much of the first floor has been gutted and is barely recognizable.



Temporary walls are going up. Here, a new wall creates a narrow corridor to the first floor elevators.



The wall creating a corridor to the temporary entrance to LakeView was complete, including the windows.

Bridge News

By CeCe Lichtenstein

As you likely know, there have been few widely played bridge tournaments in the past couple of years. One that involved only the Florida district of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) was held the week of June 12-18. Because our district has a very large number of ACBL members, even a small tournament brings a large number of players. This particular one awarded silver points, which are needed for advancement in the “ranks” toward Life Master and beyond.

Fleet Landing’s bridge club did not participate, but some of its members participated at larger clubs and won some of those treasured silver points. In no specific order, the winners were Carl Wasserman, Martha O’Reilly, Bobbie Fost, Lorie Holmes, Susan Rogers, Vicki Coward, and me. If I missed someone, please forgive me.

Congratulations to all!

Threatening Sky



Sarah Lamont captured this dramatic photo of the sky portending a thunderstorm.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

Text and photos By Dita Domonkos



Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park celebrates the allure of Florida in the 1930's and 1940's, which inspired Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings as a writer. On June 2, we drove almost two hours to the hamlet of Cross Creek, where Rawlings had ventured in 1928 to live close to the land and write. Cross Creek, she wrote, was a "small place of enchantment to turn to." In her small Florida Cracker farmhouse, surrounded by 72 acres of orange groves, Rawlings found her creative voice.

Our tour began in the barn, where we learned how Rawlings came to rural Cross Creek when she was 32 years old. As a child, she experienced her father's and grandfather's passion for farm life. During their March vacation in Cross Creek, Rawlings and her then husband, Charles, both newspaper reporters in freezing Rochester, NY, fell in love with its sunlight and warmth. They decided to gamble and move there in hopes of becoming part of the great American literature movement by writing novels supported by the orange groves.

Our guide, wearing 1930's clothing, took us to the farmhouse, which contains many of Rawlings's original furnishings. Rawlings did most of her writing, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Yearling*, seated at a handmade cypress table on the front porch. She could enjoy the breezes as she wrote and see what was happening on her farm.

Her living room was light filled with floor-to-ceiling French doors that she installed. She converted the closet

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Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

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in the room to a liquor cabinet with firewood below and “firewater” above. The farmhouse had been built over the 40 previous years. The bedroom wing had been added three years before Rawlings bought it and consisted of her bedroom and a guest room where famous guests, including Robert Frost, Margaret Mitchell, Thornton Wilder, N.C. Wyeth, and Gregory Peck, who starred in the movie version of *The Yearling*, slept.

There was no indoor plumbing at first, so an outhouse was used with a red flag to indicate when it was occupied. When two of her stories were published in *Scribner’s Magazine*, she was picked up by Max Perkins, editor of Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and other famous writers. These stories also provided the funds to install a bathroom, the first indoor plumbing in Cross Creek. Rawlings had a party to celebrate, with ice and soda in the tub and red roses in the toilet. She was encouraged by Perkins to write about the remote hamlet and the people who lived there, feeling a deep connection to the land. Her evocative writing brought Cross Creek to international fame.

Rawlings was a gifted hostess. The most elegant room in the house was the dining room, where she entertained. Rawlings loved to cook on her wood stove and served meals on Wedgwood china. She wrote a cookbook, *Cross Creek Cookery*, featuring the culinary heritage of the South, which became a best seller.

After the tour, we drove a short distance to The Yearling restaurant, which specializes in “the food rural Floridians have hunted, fished, and prepared for generations.” The lunch was delicious and the setting colorful, a perfect end to our visit to the enchanting rural South, arranged by our ingenious Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services.

Our Beach: Part 3

By Bo Smith

Our beach is wonderful in most ways, but it is a poor shelling beach. Don't give up, you can still have fun shelling here. (Maybe more fun—it's a challenge!) Most of the shells on our beach are broken and scattered, in part because we have a lot of waves that grind them up, and in part because the area immediately offshore is not good habitat for these mollusks. Also, remember that our beach is nourished, and the shells we find were picked up by a hydraulic dredge, pumped through a long pipe to the beach, and then victimized by a bulldozer. We'd all be worse off after that.

Almost all seashells on our beach are bivalves, a fancy word meaning they have two shells like clams. Most of the rest are gastropods; they have one shell like conchs. There are many species on our beach, but you can

easily learn to identify the most common from fragments. Find a book on shells and become familiar with the general shapes and color patterns of coquina, oysters, cockles, ark shells, scallops, sunrays, angel-wings, pen shells, and jingle shells (all have two shells—bivalves). This basic knowledge will get you a long way on most Florida beaches. Spiral remains are mostly whelks, moon shells and augers (all have one shell—gastropods). None of these are difficult to identify from a very small piece. Try it. Note that some shells are black, indicating they were buried in oxygen-free sediments for a long time—could be thousands of years. There's some forensic stuff here too: Look for perfect little holes in the shells—holes that look like they were produced by a power drill. That indicates that a predatory species of gastropod tracked down its victim, applied shell weakening agent, dug through to the meat with tiny teeth on a mouthpart, added some digestive juices, and stirred the victim's flesh into a soup and sucked the resultant soup out. Yum!

I'm not very good at finding shark teeth. I always look, but I've found only a few dozen in my life. Happily, I recently found one on our beach. Many casual collectors have found hundreds. A shark tooth is a true petrified fossil and could be anywhere from ten thousand to many millions of years old. Sharks have been around for 400 million years. They are very common, and an individual can produce and lose thousands of teeth yearly. You'd think that they would be among the most common of beach finds, but only a very small fraction fall into the proper sediment, are mineralized, and eventually wash up where we might find one. I've heard that the best local spots are Mickler's Landing south of Ponte Vedra and Fort Clinch near Fernandina Beach. You may have read that so many people are looking for shark teeth in Gainesville streams that they are damaging those environments. So don't go there, but reflect that 10 to 25 million years ago central Florida was covered by ocean.

You may not find a lot of shark teeth, but you will see birds at our beach. There are hundreds of possibilities, but if you learn these few, you'll know 95 percent of the likely birds. You already know pelicans and ospreys. Laughing gulls and ring-billed gulls mix in flocks on the beach with royal terns. The very common little sandpipers you see running at the waves edge are sanderlings (my favorite, watch how adept they are at not being caught by a wave). A little larger (robin sized) and less common, but in the same habitat are ruddy turnstones. The larger gray bird (smaller than a gull) with a long bill, usually hunting in a few inches of water is a willet. Crows and pigeons mix in from time to time. Learn these, and every time you go to the beach, you'll see friends and recognize when something new has flown in.

(The third of four parts about our beach)

Welcome Aboard

3201 Carole Watson (October)

Carole was in the Atlantic Club for four years. A highlight of those years was almost four wonderful months in Umbria, Italy, where she rented a studio apartment next to the olive press of an olive grove and villa estate.



A native of Jacksonville, Carole attended Maryville College in Tennessee, later transferring to the University of North Carolina. After finishing college, she returned to Jacksonville and worked as a copywriter for radio station WPDQ. She was later hired by WJXT, Channel 4 TV, to create and produce ads. She was soon recruited by the station, to follow Virginia Atter Keys (aunt of Fleet Landing Board of Directors Chair, Helen Atter) as cohost with Dick Stratton (not Fleet Landing

resident Dick Stratton) of *Midday*, a daily news, weather, and interview show. Carole left Jacksonville again, but returned to write and produce shows for WJCT, the PBS affiliate here.

Her first husband was a Marine helicopter pilot killed in Vietnam in 1966. In Jacksonville, she married an attorney, a widower with two small children. Not long after their marriage, he was tragically killed. Carole retired to adopt and raise her late husband's children, whom she says "are the light of my life." She is now "Mama C" to four grandchildren.

A member of two book clubs and a party bridge player, Carole loves opera and hopes to rediscover her singing voice through the NoteAbles. She is a new member of the Croquet Club, and of a Trivia group called "The Unthinkables!"

—Isobel Spink

8231 Bob and Marily Peterson (October)

Bob and Marily Peterson, who have been married 56 years, met at a San Jose State dorm party on a Friday the 13th, but it was good luck. It was love at first sight for the freshman from Stanford.



Bob's US Air Force career took them to Japan, Thailand, the DC area, Australia, South Carolina, and Texas, far from their Washington State and California roots. Flying the blue and white B-707s with the Presidential Wing at Andrews was a highlight. For four years, Bob was the Air Force Aide to

President Jimmy Carter, carrying the "football," performing aide-de-camp duties at White House functions, and ensuring the President's ability to execute his duties as Commander-in-Chief.

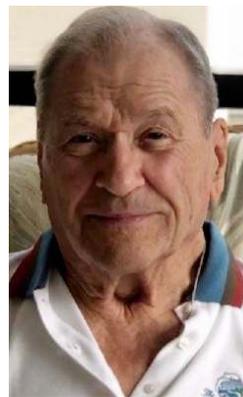
As Commander, Basic Military Training School, Bob was the highest ranking Air Force officer with the youngest child when the Petersons' daughter was born some 15 years after their son. Bob then retired after 21 years in the Air Force. He flew for the next 18 years as a check airman for UPS, qualifying pilots worldwide. The Petersons also have four wonderful grandchildren.

The Petersons love to travel and will share their Great Loop adventure on their 44-foot power cat anytime. An avid reader, Marily had teaching and librarian jobs curtailed by military assignments and their daughter's late arrival. Marily met Dana Neal (also an 8000 Building resident) 41 years ago, at Charleston, SC, and together they concocted a plan to retire to a CCRC, eat cookies, and drink wine. Mission accomplished!

—Isobel Spink and the Peterson

8226 Paul Greenwald (October)

Paul was born in Hamburg, NY. He earned a B.A. from Lehigh University and a J.D. from the George Washington University School of Law. His wife, Pat, was born in Orange, VA. She received a B.S. in mathematics from Mary Washington College and an M.S. in computer science. Sadly, she died suddenly in 2020.



After graduating from Naval Officer Candidate School in 1958, Paul was assigned to the National Security Agency (NSA) for what proved to be a five-year tour. He was primarily a computer programmer and systems analyst, writing software and deploying these systems to NSA (Army, Navy, and Air Force) sites in various overseas locations.

Upon leaving the Navy in 1963, he joined the Army Security Agency, initially in Arlington, VA, then in Frankfurt, Germany. He returned to NSA as a civilian in 1980, retiring from that agency in 2004.

His and Pat's work took them to live in Europe and work at various times in Africa, the Far East, and the Middle East. They also traveled for pleasure extensively in those areas.

Paul's last two agency assignments were as NSA Senior Communicator in the Pacific followed by the same position in Europe. During these assignments, Pat was a software support manager at a major Naval Security Agency Field Station in Hawaii and later held a similar position in Europe. Upon their retirements, both worked in private industry until 2009, when they moved to The Villages, FL.

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Welcome Aboard

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Paul had three children, Paige, Penny, and Patty (deceased), by his first wife (deceased). He has eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

—Kristin Perry

Gershwin Gala

By Dita Domonkos



Steve Chapman (l) and Bill Prince



Fleet Landing residents enjoyed many of the much-loved songs of brothers George and Ira Gershwin at the “Gershwin Gala” in Johnson Hall on June 1. Steve Chapman, a popular guest artist, explored the Gershwin partnership of 13 years, during which the brothers created over 400 songs for Broadway and Hollywood. George wrote the music and older brother Ira, the witty lyrics. Chapman, on piano and vocals, was joined by Bill Prince, professional musician and University of North Florida professor emeritus, on clarinet, saxophone, and cornet. The duo performed songs from the first Gershwin musical, *Lady Be Good* (1924), to some of their last songs for the movie, *The Goldwyn Follies* (1937). Chapman told stories and showed visuals from the musicals and movies featuring these Gershwin songs.

In 1924, the brothers composed the song “Fascinating Rhythm,” and George wrote the music for the song “Somebody Loves Me.” This was also the year George composed *Rhapsody in Blue* for orchestra, a piece that influenced classical music by introducing jazz to orchestral music and inspired future composers, including Leonard Bernstein and Igor Stravinsky.

Chapman and Price played its main theme. Four years later, George wrote another symphonic piece, *An American In Paris*, from which the duo played the blues theme. According to George, this theme shows that the American tourist in Paris has become homesick. In 1951, *An American In Paris* was made into a movie starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron.

Chapman and Prince played the classic “S Wonderful” from the 1927 musical *Funny Face*, where Fred Astaire introduced his trademark top hat and tails while dancing. The 1930 musical, *Girl Crazy*, created more hits than any other Gershwin musical and made stars of Ethel Merman and Ginger Rogers. In 1943, it was turned into a movie starring Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney. Chapman and Price played “I Got Rhythm,” “Embraceable You,” “Bidin’ My Time,” and “But Not For Me,” from this musical.

We were also treated to “I Got Plenty of Nothin’” and “Summertime” from the 1935 folk opera, *Porgy and Bess*, which George Gershwin considered his finest work. Soon after it opened, the brothers moved from New York City to Hollywood to write music for movies. *Shall We Dance*, starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rodgers, produced the hits “Let’s Call The Whole Thing Off,” during which Astaire and Rogers tap danced on roller skates, and “They Can’t Take That Away From Me.” “Nice Work If You Can Get It” is from the 1937 movie, *A Damsel In Distress*, which starred Fred Astaire, George Burns, and Gracie Allen.

The program ended with “Love Walked In” and “Love Is Here To Stay” from *The Goldwyn Follies*, some of the last pieces George composed. He died in 1937 at age 38 from a brain tumor.

Chapman concluded the gala by commenting that George and Ira’s songs have had a monumental impact on American music. Almost 100 years later, they are still fresh, while evoking an age of glamour, which Chapman and Prince enjoyably conveyed.

Family Outing

Photo by Karen Hollinga



A mama duck with her brood of seven growing ducklings, who are exploring a bank of Lake Constellation

Final Fleet Six Concert

By Enith Vardaman



The ensemble



The Boys From FleetNotes



Left: Gene Alvarez, retiring member of the group.

Right: Bunky Johnson, new member.

The Fleet Six performed its final concert on June 14 in Johnson Hall. Residents who have enjoyed the group's musical offerings need not be dismayed, however. The recent retirement of Phil Martin (bass fiddle), and the announcement that Gene Alvarez (harmonica) was performing with the ensemble for the last time, has meant a change of membership in the group and a new name, The FleetLanders. Alvarez and the continuing members of the group, Julia Pet-Armacost (flute, guitar, cajon), Gary Reichow (bass guitar), Karen Sturtevant (piano), and Bob Armacost (bass guitar), were joined by new member Bunky Johnson (clarinet and saxophone) for this concert. The Boys From FleetNotes (Bob Chrisman, Bill Query, Larry Rose, John Rogerson, Walt Trevaskis, Dan Barry, Reichow, and Armacost), led by Pet-Armacost, were guest artists.

Fittingly, because the concert fell on Flag Day (and the US Army birthday), it began with "You're a Grand Old Flag," sung first by the guest artists, and then the audience was invited to join in.

The theme of the program was blues and moon songs. Titles included "Moonlight in Vermont," "Basin Street Blues," "Moon Over Miami," and "Birth of the Blues." There were more sing-alongs, including "Blue Skies" and "Moon River." The Boys From FleetNotes returned to sing "In the Good Old Summertime," and they sang "Goodnite, Sweetheart, Goodnite" as an encore.

The concert ended with a rendition of "Georgia on My Mind" featuring Alvarez on the harmonica.

Mallets and Wickets

By Gerry Nogelo; photos by Nancy Russell



Left: Bullseye challenge.

Right: Vickie Rose and Craig Miller, first place winner in the three challenges competition.

The Fleet Landing Croquet Club (FLCC) started the month of June with a celebration of National Croquet Day at the LaHatte Croquet Court on June 4, from 6 to 8 pm. Vickie Rose and Suzi Miller were co-chairs of the event and worked hard to make it a smashing success. Forty-five members attended.

Members played three challenges: making the fewest strokes to get through the first two wickets, hitting three balls at a target to try to get a bullseye, and hitting three balls through the wicket from a specified distance. Everyone rotated through the challenges, with Miles Nogelo, John Neyhart, and Bruce Osborne keeping score. First place went to Craig Miller, who won a bottle of wine. Mary Steinke took second place and was awarded croquet note cards. Kathy Kraslawsky won a FLCC ball cap for her third place finish. The three door prizes were won by Scotty Willis, Bruce Osborne, and Connie Kolster.

While the competition was going on, people enjoyed
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Mallets and Wickets

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wine and water; all kinds of finger foods like chicken wings, vegetables, meatballs, cheese, dips, and fruit; and homemade cookies. It was a festive celebration.

By 8 pm, when the party was scheduled to end, the temperature had gone down. The lights were then turned on, and many people stayed to play informal games of croquet.

FLCC holds monthly meetings. The club also plans mixers during the second weekend of the month. Contact Ardith LaShell (ardith@lashell.com) or check the FLCC website (fleetlandingcroquet.square.site) for more information.

During the hot summer months we urge people to be mindful of hydrating while on the courts and to play early in the morning or in the evening, when it is cooler, and you can turn on the lights.

Mama Blue Concert

By Maureen Miller

Photos by Ed Hollender, Maureen Miller, and Patricia Payne



As with all concerts Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, has organized for Fleet Landing's Summer Concert Series, Mama Blue's exceeded our expectations.

For her second performance at Fleet Landing, Mama Blue brought along three musicians, incredible in their own right: Joe Watts (piano), John Mortenson (bass), and James Davis (drums). Dressed in black, they were an excellent backup group plus contrast to Mama Blue's multicolored long dress and purple headdress topped with blue butterflies and a brilliant yellow flower.

With her powerful, sultry voice, Mama Blue quickly captivated the audience, not only through song, but also with her warm, encompassing personality.

After seeing our reaction to those first few familiar songs she'd chosen, she quickly told us she was going to "forget the list" and go with what was working. Moving through her unique renditions of oldies like "Stand By Me" and "Dock of the Bay," Mama Blue soon quit the stage to bring us closer. Drawing on her large and varied repertoire, she used her vocal range and power to take us back to our dancing, toe tapping, youthful days. And while continuing to sing, she sauntered down the aisles, connecting to each individual with a smile, a slight touch, a brief comment, a big hug, and even sitting on a lap or two.

Throughout the concert, Mama Blue would sit back a few moments to allow us to enjoy the improvisations of the musicians accompanying her. Taking us from sedate to great, we soon realized we hadn't just gotten a singer, we'd also gotten a jazzy blues band!

Returning from a short intermission, Mama Blue had discarded her shoes, as well as the bright yellow flower. Standing now, with a single blue butterfly adorning her headdress, this petite, sassy package proceeded to show us the true powerhouse performer she is.

Having grown up in Jacksonville, Mama Blue has performed at numerous local venues, including the Alhambra Theatre. Musicals are a favorite of hers. So with Watts accompanying her on Fleet Landing's baby grand, the actress in Mama Blue came out as, vocally and physically, she introduced us to the Ipanema girl and her longing admirer. Then, after disclosing her esteem for Aretha Franklin, Mama Blue showed us how even a tiny thing can belt out "Natural Woman." And if that wasn't enough to enthrall us, this "preacher's kid" put her "little spin" on "Amazing Grace" and demonstrated how easily a sedate tune can turn into a lively dance.

Mama Blue's closing song was one of her own, a tribute to her now grown children and a thank you to us, the audience. It was a lullaby that left us longing for more, as she again walked among us.

Please bring her back, Mary!