

Daniel Island News

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May 21 - 27, 2026

PGS. 11-17

STUDENT TAKEOVER EDITION

WRITTEN BY STUDENTS

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Small actions add up

Bishop England's Kallyn Long wins Charleston Teen of Impact award

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com



"I may only be a junior in high school, but I've realized you don't have to wait until you're older to create change."

Kallyn Long says it simply, like it's obvious.

But spend even a few minutes with the Bishop England High School student, and it becomes clear — she's

not talking about someday. She's already doing it.

This spring, the American Heart Association named Long the 2026 Charleston Teen of Impact, an honor awarded to students leading the charge in heart health advocacy, education, and fundraising. Across the Low-country, nominees helped raise more than \$160,000 to support lifesaving research and outreach, but for Long, the campaign was never just about numbers.

"Teen of Impact empowers teens to create change in their communities," Long said. "For me, it became so much more than fundraising. It became about community, kindness, leadership, and helping people feel supported and cared for."

Her "why" runs deep.

When her mother was 24 weeks pregnant, a sudden pulmonary embolism led doctors to uncover a genetic clotting disorder, a discovery that ultimately saved her grandfather's life after doctors realized he was on the verge of a massive heart attack. Years later,

he would survive again, this time thanks to technology that alerted emergency responders after he collapsed at home.

"Experiences like those change you forever," she said. "They make you realize how important heart health awareness, CPR education, prevention, and advocacy truly are."

That urgency shaped everything about her campaign.

At Bishop England High School, Long turned hallways into spaces of action — organizing a CPR training on campus, rallying classmates for fundraising efforts, and leading initiatives that brought both awareness and tangible skills into her community.

"My biggest goal was honestly just to help people and hopefully save lives through awareness and education," she said. "One of the most meaningful parts of this experience was seeing how supportive my school has been. Bishop England truly feels like a family."

Beyond school, her efforts stretched

across Charleston, from Easter egg hunts on Daniel Island to community fundraisers, all driven by a simple but powerful idea: small actions add up.

"What meant the most to me was watching the community come together," she said. "It reminded me how powerful kindness and teamwork really are."

That belief in kindness isn't new for Long; it's the thread that ties together everything she's done.

Many know her as Miss South Carolina High School America. Others know her as the author of the children's book "Cordelia and Me," or as the teen who organizes mock pageants for deaf and hard-of-hearing children, giving participants a chance to step into the spotlight with confidence.

Behind all of it is a moment that reshaped her life.

In middle school, Long lost hearing in one ear due to a rare condition called enlarged vestibular aqueduct syndrome. A year later,

See **AWARD** on **PAGE 4**



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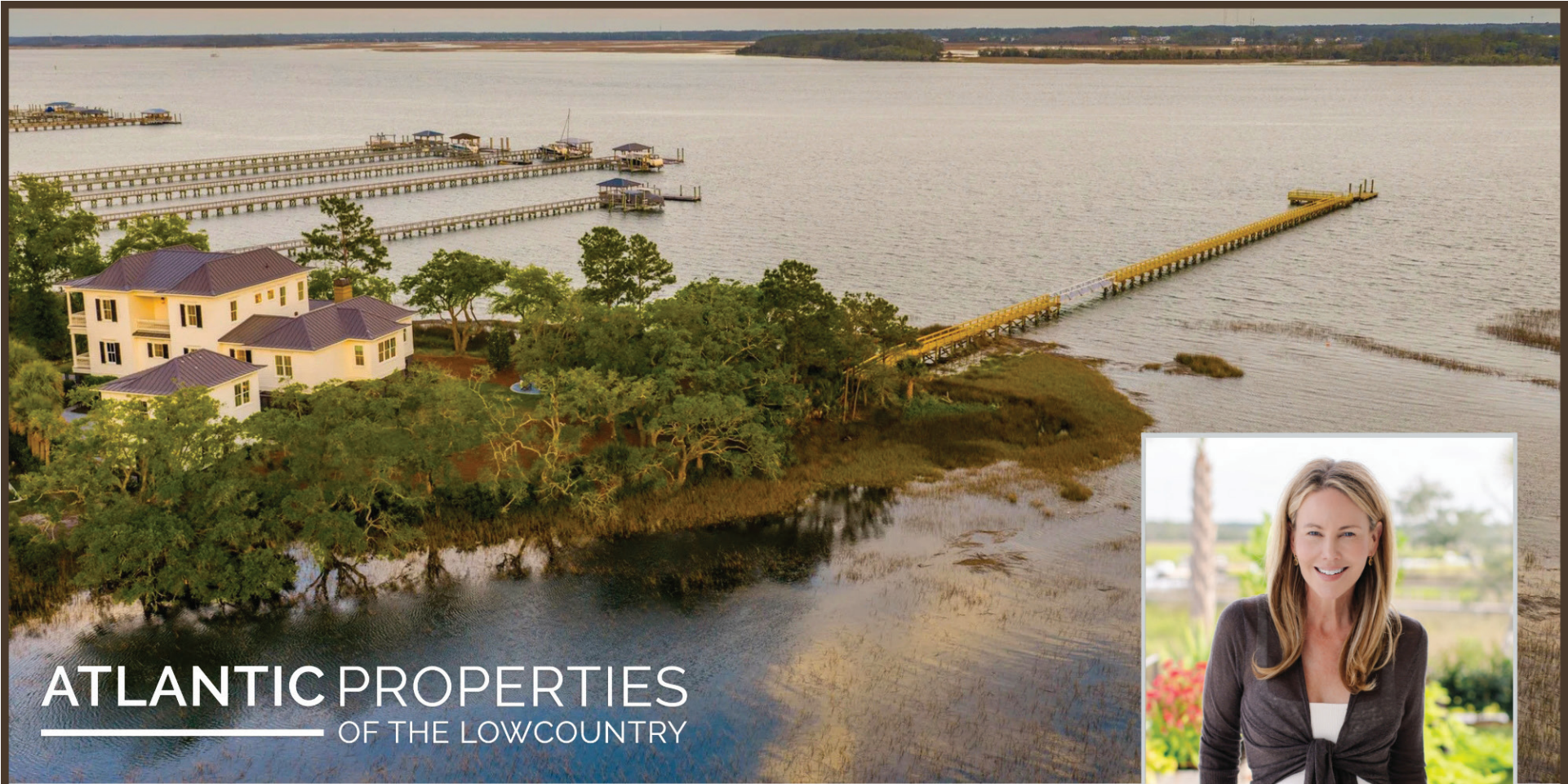
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AWARD from PAGE 2

she received a cochlear implant, and with it, a new perspective.

"I learned what it feels like to struggle silently and fight for accommodations and understanding," she said. "I had to apply multiple times before finally receiving SAT/ACT accommodations, and when I finally got them, my score improved dramatically."

That experience didn't just challenge her. It clarified her purpose.

"The more I shared my story, the more people connected with it," she said. "I realized that vulnerability can help people feel less alone, and advocacy can create real change."

It's a realization that's already taken her far beyond Charleston. Recently, Long traveled to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., meeting with lawmakers to advocate for better accessibility for deaf and hard-of-hearing students – work she hopes to continue into the future.

"One day I would love to study political science, history, and law because I want to continue advocating for people and helping create policies that improve lives," she said.

But ask her what "impact" really means, and her answer doesn't start with legislation

or titles.

"To me, impact means using whatever gifts, experiences, or opportunities you've been given to help someone else," she said. "Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness can completely change someone's day."

For all the titles, advocacy work, and impact she's made, Long is still, in many ways, a typical teenager, balancing school, friendships, future plans, and even picking up shifts at Mac's Daniel Island. The difference is what she chooses to do with the in-between moments, guided by a philosophy she's carried into every corner of her life: "If someone else can't see a rainbow after a storm, maybe you can be their rainbow."

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KERRI SANDERSON

Previous Page: Kallyn Long is named 2026 Charleston Teen of Impact winner.

Right: Long traveled to Capitol Hill to advocate for better accommodations and accessibility for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Right: Long, author of "Cordelia and Me," shares her message of inclusion with U.S. Rep. Nancy Mace through her children's book.



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High gas prices got you down? Then, it's time to start thinking down the road



Penny pincher

PATRICK BYRNE

Prices at the pump are tough to swallow at the moment. Even with 100 miles left in my tank, the total cost to fill up was a whopping \$51. I'll be the first to acknowledge my car gets average to poor gas mileage (around 23 miles per gallon), but I can only imagine what people driving big trucks or SUVs must be paying. This also got me thinking about the importance of being practical. Practicality, especially with money, isn't fun or flashy, but it does allow us to weather the financial storms as they arise.

If the last 20+ years has taught us anything, financial headwinds will be felt, whether we like it or not.

In 2008 (at the start of the housing downturn), I was working as a marketing manager at a Big 4 bank. At the time, I was tasked with starting up a new program

allowing people to either sell their house for less than what they owed (called a short sale) or turn their house back into the bank and have their outstanding debt forgiven (called a deed in lieu). Competitor analysis showed there were no other banks marketing to their customers with this idea so we had to start from scratch.

Without boring you with all the details, customers were offered thousands of dollars in some cases to leave their existing home. Again, their outstanding debt would be forgiven and they'd receive a cash payout from the bank to leave their home and move elsewhere. Interestingly, the success rate of people accepting the offer was a lot less than you'd expect. I don't recall the exact figures but it was less than 5% of those solicited who accepted the proposal.

Houses, like cars and anything else we own, are cherished possessions. We take pride in them and will fight tooth and nail to make sure no one takes them away. This is understandable; however, what most of us don't do is hedge

against the possibility of losing them in the first place. What I mean is, there's a higher likelihood that you can keep your car regardless of what financial downturn may happen if you own it. This isn't always true, but it's a better bet than if you lease or have an outstanding loan. The same can be said for your house, your furniture, swimming pool or anything else you own.

It's boring to be practical and yet it ensures ownership and financial advancement no matter what may happen in the stock market, to gas or food prices. There's a reason we're encouraged to put 6% of our paychecks into a 401K or other retirement account. It's not fun to essentially tax ourselves each paycheck but the pain felt now sets us up for success later.

As I saw the pump gauge pass the \$50 mark earlier today, I wondered if I should purchase a hybrid car instead of the one I currently own. This thought lasted about five seconds when I realized this idea made little sense. When my car dies and I'm forced to buy

something else, a hybrid may be a good option. For now, the price of gas shouldn't dictate anything, let alone a large purchase. It takes about \$15 extra dollars to fill my car up at the moment, which I have to do once a week. This equates to an additional \$60 per month. It stings for sure, but that doesn't justify a new car payment of \$500 or more.

When times are good, it's easy to consider taking a trip abroad or making a large purchase for something that we think will enhance our lives. The more difficult decision is to be practical during these times. Avoid thinking short term and keep a long term view when it comes to financial decisions. This is especially true for large purchases.

Having said that, if you really want to put a swimming pool in, be my guest. Just be sure to keep me on your summer invite list.

Known as Mr. Penny Pincher, Patrick Byrne writes a money-minded column for the Tega Cay Sun in Tega Cay, South Carolina.

Share your voice! What's your priorities for lawmakers?

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

As the election primary season ramps up for the upcoming June 9 vote, we want to hear directly from Daniel Island and Cainhoy residents: What everyday issues are weighing on you? What's frustrating you? What needs to change?

More importantly, what do you want your elected representatives to do about these issues?

On the national level, is it the economy, rising costs, global conflicts, health care, AI, or

something else?

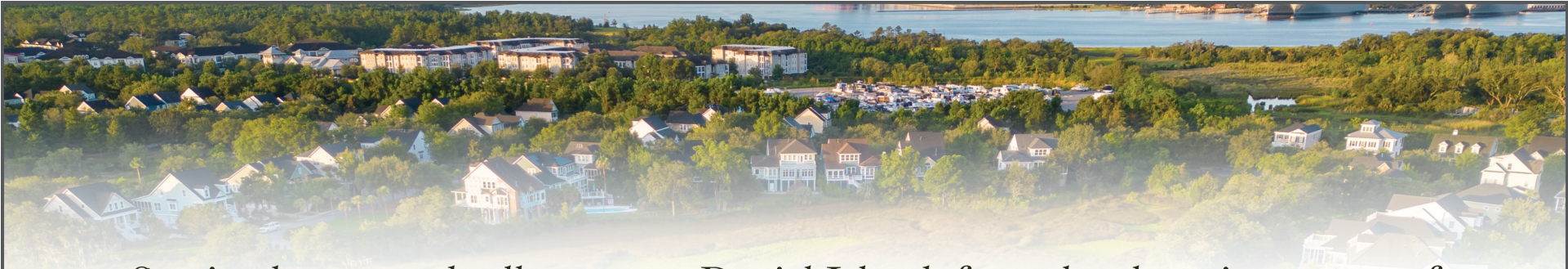
Closer to home, are traffic, growth and development, schools, safety, e-bikes, or infrastructure concerns on your mind?

Big or small, personal or community-wide – what matters most to you, and why?

Send your thoughts to emma@thedanielislandnews.com, and include your name and neighborhood. Your response may be featured in our upcoming Election Edition.

Your input will help shape the conversation and highlight what this community cares about as we approach the primary.





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The Danziger Cup Turns 15

Kids' fishing tournament returns to Smythe Lake with more prizes

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

On Saturday, June 20, Smythe Park Lake won't look like its usual quiet self.

Rods will be lined along the banks, kids will be crouched over bait buckets, and the first horn will kick off the 15th Annual Danziger Cup Kids Fishing Tournament.

What started in 2011 as a small community idea with just 35 young anglers has grown into one of Daniel Island's most anticipated Father's Day weekend traditions. Now, 15 years later, the event has become equal parts competition, family outing, and summer kickoff.

"This year's 15th Anniversary Danziger Cup is shaping up to be our most exciting tournament yet," said co-chair Trent Gustafson, pointing to new sponsors, expanded giveaways, and more raffle prizes than in years past.

One of the biggest changes is upgraded

angler goodie bags, though only the first 150 children registered are guaranteed to receive them.

The tournament is open to children ages 4 to 15 whose families live or work on Daniel Island, and every participant must be accompanied by an adult. Families register online in advance, then pick up their entry bags before the start. Worms and basic tackle are provided, and volunteers from the Daniel Island Inshore Fishing Club are on hand to help beginners.

At 8:30 a.m., the "lines in" horn sounds. Two hours later, it's "lines out," and the focus shifts from fishing to measuring. Parents submit catch photos through a QR code system that records species and length.

Eligible fish include largemouth bass, panfish, and mullet, with prizes awarded for the top three longest fish in each age group. A Mystery Fish category and tagged fish awards will add surprise moments throughout the morning.

Gustafson said the competition often comes down to the smallest margins. "Sometimes it's just a fraction of an inch," he said, noting that success is less about experience and more about patience, persistence, and a bit of luck.

The Grand Champion Award goes to the longest eligible fish overall, and this year's winner will earn a half-day fishing trip for two with Daniel Island News fishing columnist Captain Greg Peralta. A large raffle follows the tournament, featuring donated prizes from community sponsors.

"The biggest impact is getting families outdoors together," Gustafson said, adding that many kids return year after year, turning a Saturday morning event into a tradition that grows with them.

This year's proceeds will benefit Charleston Waterkeeper, supporting efforts to protect and restore local waterways across the region.

Registration is available online at dan-

ielislandfishingclub.com/events. Families are encouraged to sign up early, especially if they want a shot at one of those limited goodie bags waiting at check-in.



TRENT GUSTAFSON

The 15th Annual Danziger Cup returns Saturday, June 20, at Smythe Park Lake for a Father's Day fishing tradition.

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PSHS junior wins essay contest for challenging the perception of nursing homes

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

Most people don't associate nursing homes with optimism. McRae Stephenson just proved why they should.

The Philip Simmons High School junior and Daniel Island resident recently earned first place in the South Carolina District 22 Optimist International Essay Contest, winning a \$2,500 scholarship and publication in The Optimist magazine. She was recognized at the Optimist Club Oratorical Contest on April 25, where she read her essay and received her award.

This year's theme, "How My Acts of Service Help Me Understand What My Community Means to Me," asked students to reflect on service in their own lives. For Stephenson, that answer came from volunteering in a nursing home alongside her grandfather, an experience that reshaped her understanding of connection.

"In sharing the experience I had at the nursing homes, I felt I was able to bring to

light the reality of what it means when you have a family member in an assisted living environment," Stephenson said. "I didn't have much to go on when I found out my grandpa had to go into a nursing home, but when I experienced where he was living, I knew he was almost in his element."

Her essay challenges the common perception of nursing homes as somber places, instead highlighting moments of humor and human connection. Through helping with bingo games, working on puzzles, or simply sitting and listening, Stephenson discovered a quieter, more enduring form of community.

"Writing this essay was extremely personal to me because it was based on an experience that had such a strong impact on my life and perspective," Stephenson said. "(Being selected) for Optimist International's magazine is especially meaningful because it allows me to share my grandpa's story and hopefully help others see the importance of connection, compassion, and optimism in everyday life."

Stephenson, who has long used writing as a creative outlet, said, "I hope people take away the importance of spending time with others and the impact that small acts of kindness and connection can have. Nursing homes are often viewed in a negative light, but my experience showed me they can also be places filled with friendship, humor, and genuine care."

Her English teacher, Laura Garner, said the essay's emotional impact was undeniable.

"McRae's essay had obviously benefited from strategies modeled in many texts read throughout the course, but it isn't often that a student is capable of internalizing and applying those strategies so thoroughly," Garner said. "I was amazed at the emotional impact of her essay. I found myself unable to read it without tears. I am just so proud of her and absolutely thrilled at how much she has grown."

District Essay Chair Elisa Hutto Thompson agreed. "McRae did a wonderful job of articulating this year's theme. She expressed



PROVIDED BY ERIN STEPHENSON

McRae Stephenson reads her winning essay at the Optimist Club Oratorical Contest, where she received a plaque and \$2,500 scholarship for first place in the state essay contest.

herself well through the essay and deserved the honor of first place."

Stephenson said the recognition is meaningful, but the message matters more: even in life's quietest spaces, optimism has a way of showing up.

To read Stephenson's essay, go to page 15 of our Student Takeover edition.

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Iron Horse Ink pgs. 15-17

- Reversing nursing home stereotypes
- Under the Velvet Vine short story
- Balancing life as a student-athlete

The Osprey Observer pg. 14

- The ethics of AI in warfare
- Rising above dyslexia

STUDENT TAKEOVER EDITION

The Island Insider pgs. 12-13

- Cutting down on trash
- Is the school phone ban worth it?
- Summer reading at the Daniel Island Library

STOCK PHOTOS

Extra, extra, read all about it!

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

They're in class during the day and running the newsroom (well, sort of) at night.

This week, The Daniel Island News is

handing over the paper to a new group of voices for our second annual Student Takeover Edition.

From pupils at Daniel Island School and Philip Simmons High School to local students attending schools across the area, these budding reporters stepped

up to tell the stories that matter to them. Think student-written features, strong opinions, and a fresh take on everything from school life to social issues.

Armed with writer's aspirations and a lot of creativity, these students pitched their own ideas, asked the hard ques-

tions, and brought their stories to life. The result? A fun, honest, and sometimes surprising look at life as a student right now, told entirely in their own words.

Flip through and see what happens when we pass the pen.

THE ISLAND INSIDER

Too much trash, not enough change

EMMA WINKELMANN

DI resident & Porter-Gaud sixth grader

Have you ever wondered how much trash we have produced each day? Too much! Each person in the USA produces 4.9 pounds of trash per day.

There are many ways we can cut down on trash. We can recycle things, like using a reusable water bottle instead of a disposable one, or using metal forks instead of plastic forks. It can even be as simple as getting a cone at the ice cream shop instead of a cup, or not using a plastic straw at a restaurant!

Another way we can cut down on trash is by shopping locally instead of ordering online. We can use reusable bags at the grocery store instead of plastic or paper bags. Cutting up the plastic rings that come on sodas is also helpful. Believe it or not, so many turtles die each year from getting their head stuck in it or accidentally mistaking it for food. The same happens with plastic bags and other animals. They will see the colorful plastic and think it's food, causing them to eat it and then die.

Another form of pollution we don't think of often is light pollution. And it's especially harmful to South Carolina, with all of our sea turtles. When they hatch, they follow the light of the moon to the ocean. But if they confuse a porch light for the moon, they might get eaten by a predator before they can reach the sea.

If we could all just do our part, the Earth would be much cleaner!



Emma Winkelmann tends to her garden at home as part of her effort to live more sustainably and reduce waste.

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No phones in schools: A distraction removed or a connection lost?

ROSE MONAHAN

DI resident & University School of the Lowcountry sixth grader

As of January 2025, the Berkeley County School District implemented a no cell-phones policy in schools, prohibiting use of any device capable of accessing the internet or using Wi-Fi. Devices have to be stowed safely away in your backpack for the school day. If you have your device out and your teacher sees, your device will be confiscated. This policy is keeping students focused in classrooms. But is it really as helpful as it seems?

Most kids have phones and smartwatches to communicate with their parents after school and during activities. If their device gets confiscated, kids won't be able to contact their adults

until their device is returned [at the end of the day.] On Daniel Island, many students bike or walk to school, and having phones and smartwatches lets them stay in touch with their parents.

Removing phones in classrooms definitely makes teachers' lives easier. They know students aren't staring at screens (other than a school-provided Chromebook or a Smartboard); they're learning the lesson. But why don't Chromebooks, a device that uses the internet, count in this ban? New research is also revealing that test scores are, in fact, going down. In Maine, which was one of the first states to add Chromebooks to public schools, test scores stayed the same after 15 years of Chromebook usage.

Although bullying rates, test scores, and attendance rates are staying about

the same, research shows that there are potential long-term benefits to the ban.

So what do you think? Is the phone ban worth it?



A cell phone station at University School of the Lowcountry stores student devices during the school day.



Your summer reading quest starts here: Inside the DI Library with Tim Boyle

PRESLEY BARBER

DI resident & Christ Our King-Stella Maris fifth grader

Have you ever dreamed about meeting a dragon or ever wanted to go to Hogwarts? Even though it can't happen in real life, you can in books!

I was lucky enough to spend an afternoon with Tim Boyle (he can say the alphabet backward!) – the head librarian at the Daniel Island Library. For the past 16 years, Mr. Tim has spent his days supporting his team and providing good customer service. He is always quick to get you interested in a book you never thought you would like!

Speaking of book recommendations, if you are looking for one this summer, Mr. Tim recommends:

1. The "Harry Potter" series
2. See how many books you can read off the 2026-2027 South Carolina Book Award Nominees
3. Print off the Newberry Award and Honor

Checklist and read one from every year starting with 2026 and going down!

And for adults, Mr. Tim's favorite book he has read this year is "Proto: How One Ancient Language Went Global."

Although Mr. Tim says the exact number of books at the library is "a lot...", there is so much more to do – like checking out telescopes (you can take them home for a few days to see the stars in your backyard), e-books and audiobooks. And be sure to join him for the Think Tank on the fourth Friday of each month at 3 p.m., where you can get hands-on with science, learn about space, and be your own creator!

This year's summer reading program theme is "Unearth a Story," which encourages readers to dig into a good book, uncover hidden histories, or explore the past! It starts June 1, and you can win prizes through the program – and a medal! Hope you find an adventure in a book this summer!

The physics of fluff: Why ducklings follow the leader

LARSON EKLUND

Charleston Academic Sports Academy fifth grader

Have you ever wondered why ducklings follow their mom in a perfectly straight line? I took photos of a mallard mama and her nine ducklings walking to the pond's edge on Daniel Island. The ducklings I spotted were about one month old based on their size and feather development. It was early evening, and they were headed for a delicious dinner of worms, slugs, and bugs. I was curious about why they always walk or swim in a straight line, so I did some research and learned some interesting facts.

These ducklings aren't just

cute; they are also applying principles of physics and displaying savvy survival instincts.

When a mama swims, her wake makes it easier for her ducklings to swim, too. The ripples in the water actually push the ducklings forward. By surfing behind their mama, they can save a crazy amount of energy – up to 62%!

When they are out of the water, following the leader helps the ducklings from getting lost in the tall grass. They only have to follow their sibling's tail feathers. And by following in a line, a predator like a fox or a hawk might be tricked into thinking they're one big feathery monster instead of a nine-course meal.

THE OSPREY OBSERVER

The ethics of AI in warfare

AUSTIN ABBATE

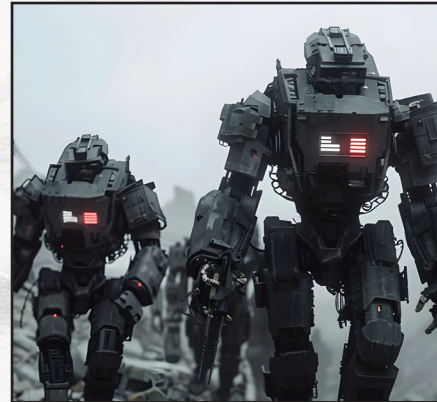
Daniel Island School eighth grader

Since the beginning of time as we know it, the human species has been inventing things to eliminate the other. Over time, we eventually see the dawn of the human race come closer and closer to devastation brought down by our own powers – coming from swords and cavalry to Peacekeeper I.C.B.M.s able to destroy another country from around the world.

Now, we enter a new era, where threats aren't even fully controlled by the enemy and swarms of drones can take out targets in mere minutes. Artificial intelligence can think for itself, so does that mean we have no control over it? AI has its programmed ethics,

but are its ethics under control near the heat of war?

When an entity possesses autonomy, exercising control becomes inherently challenging. A central ethical dilemma in deploying artificial intelligence in warfare revolves around ceding lethal decision-making to machines. As detailed in "AI and the Ethics of Killer Robots" by Rohan Neagle in the ACS Information Age website, granting autonomous weapons – often called "killer robots" – the authority to decide matters of life and death introduces profound moral quandaries regarding responsibility and accountability. If AI-powered systems act without direct human supervision, it becomes ambiguous who bears responsibility for mistakes



or civilian casualties.

The article highlights how this ambiguity threatens to undermine international humanitarian law, as machines fundamentally lack the moral reasoning and empathy necessary to navigate the complex realities of com-

bat. Further, the potential for AI to be hacked or to malfunction exacerbates these risks, possibly triggering catastrophic and unintended outcomes on the battlefield.

In conclusion, the integration of AI into modern warfare demands urgent ethical scrutiny and the establishment of robust frameworks to ensure human accountability. As discussed in the ACS Information Age article, the potential for AI systems to make autonomous decisions about the application of lethal force introduces unprecedented risks. To safeguard humanity and uphold international law, it is essential that ethical considerations remain at the forefront of AI development and deployment in military contexts.

Wired differently: How I rise above dyslexia

SONOMA PIERSA

Daniel Island School eighth grader

On paper, I look like any other high-achieving student. My grades are almost always between 95 and 100. But what those numbers don't show is how much harder I have to work than everyone else just to get there.

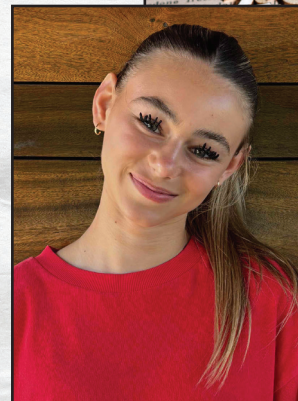
I have dyslexia, and I go to a school that wasn't really designed for me.

Daniel Island School doesn't have a specialized program for kids with dyslexia. The whole system was built for a certain type of learner, and I'm just not that kind. Yet somehow, I am still here, earning grades that most students would be proud of.

What people don't get about dyslexia is that it has nothing to do with being

smart. My brain is just wired differently. When I try to write, the connection between what I know and what ends up on the page is a battle every single time. There is a specific kind of exhaustion that comes from working twice as hard for the same result. By the end of the day, I'm not just tired from learning; I'm tired from fighting.

My grades are proof that a student with dyslexia can still rise to the top, even without the right tools. I'm writing this because students like me deserve to be seen. If I can achieve these grades in a system not built for me, imagine what I could do in one that was. I fought, and I'm still fighting. My grades prove that I am winning.



IRON HORSE INK

How my acts of service help me understand what my community means to me

MCRAE STEPHENSON

Philip Simmons High School junior

Editor's note: McRae Stephenson's essay earned first place in the South Carolina District 22 Optimist International Essay Contest and will be featured in The Optimist magazine.

Community is often tangible – something loud and visible, like a crowd cheering from the stands at a football game. In these moments, community feels unmistakable – voices overlap, noise fills the air, and belonging seems effortless because so many people share it at once. I discovered its truest meaning in a quiet nursing home.

Rather than sound defining the community in that place, it was the absence of sound. At first contact, the bland colors, hushed voices, and muted smells feel oppressive; yet, in time, one realizes that together they provide inhabitants with the comfort of calm, the assurance that life will move at a pace they can handle, one in which they might flourish.

My grandfather lived in a nursing home on the quiet, nearly deserted streets of Lugoff, South Carolina, and I spent my visits volunteering alongside him. I sat at tables worn smooth from many years of use, helping his friends find numbers on their brightly colored bingo cards or leaning over five-thousand-piece jigsaw puzzles. For many puzzles, pieces vanished years ago, but looking for them always helped to pass the time.

Residents, my grandfather among them, often struggled with the games. Numbers slipped away mid-call, rules blurred, and frustration sometimes surfaced. Yet what stayed with me was not the difficulty of the games but the persistence of the players. They laughed at mistakes, encouraged each other, and kept playing. Watching them face challenges with patience and grace gave my time there a meaning I had not expected.

During one bingo game I met a woman named Carol, who reshaped my understanding of that place. She suffered from severe dementia, and each time I spoke to her, she studied my face as if seeing me for the first time. After a long pause – sometimes nearly thirty seconds – she would look up and ask, softly and sincerely, "Who are you?" I learned quickly that explanations did not help. Still, my response never changed. I smiled and said, "We share a name."



McRae Stephenson reads her first-place essay at the Optimist Club Oratorical Contest that earned her a \$2,500 scholarship.

Each time, her expression softened, and a gentle smile spread across her face, one that carried warmth even when memory could not. In those moments, I realized that hope lived quietly within every resident. They did not need correction or fixing; they needed someone willing to meet them where they were and remind them that they were seen.

Few people associate optimism with nursing homes or with bodies that weaken and minds that falter. I didn't either. At first, the nursing home met every expectation I carried. Pale walls attempted to cheer with a few colorful paintings. Hallways empty of bodies, yet overflowing with wheelchairs, walkers, canes, emergency buttons, and doors built

for safety rather than freedom. Everything seemed to scream incapable. Incapable of independence. Incapable of moving freely. Incapable of existing without assistance. Yet when I stepped into my grandfather's room, that narrative shifted.

Laughter cut through the quiet. Stories – sometimes repeated, sometimes unfinished – filled the space. There, optimism lived in its truest form: hope, joy, and strength carried by people who had every reason to surrender but chose not to.

Young people often underestimate the strength of the elderly, mistaking fragility for weakness. Jimmy Carter serves as a powerful reminder of how misleading that assumption can be. According to PBS, doctors diagnosed him with metastatic melanoma at the age of 90, a cancer that had already spread to his brain. For many, such news would bring despair. Instead, Carter chose gratitude. He smiled, joked, leaned into his faith, and continued serving others for as long as his body allowed. When he said, "I have had a wonderful life, and I'm thankful for it," he revealed a mindset rooted not in denial but in acceptance.

I recognized that same mindset among the residents of my grandfather's nursing home. Even as memories faded and bodies weakened, they clung to optimism. Their resilience drew me back each weekend, not only to help, but to listen, to learn, and to witness the quiet courage it took to keep showing up.

A year has passed since my grandfather died, but the lessons he left behind remain with me. His home taught me that community does not require noise or recognition; it grows instead from presence – the choice to sit beside someone, to listen without interruption, and to treat them as a whole person rather than a diagnosis.

I entered the nursing home believing I was offering service. I left with a deeper understanding of belonging: memory loss does not erase dignity, age does not diminish worth, and sicknesses can't muffle optimism. Through simple acts of time and care, I learned that true community forms in patience, respect, and intentional presence.

I now carry one belief shaped by that experience: optimism is not the absence of hardship; it's the decision to show up again and again, even when the outcome remains uncertain.

Under the Velvet Vine

ELLIOT TAYLOR

Philip Simmons High School senior

Editor's note: Taylor read her first-place awarded short story "Under the Velvet Vine" at the 2025 Charleston Literary Festival.

The honeysuckles bloomed in June, as they always did – their amber tongues curling around porch beams and power poles, too restless to stay rooted. There was no warning before their arrival; they came in clusters, flushed and fragrant, trailing their sweetness behind them like a train of silk, filling the air until it dripped gold. They took and took, and they looked lovely doing it.

That summer, I was ten: freckled, barefoot, painted pink by the sun. My grandmother taught me how to pluck them – pinch the stem, pull the filament, sip the nectar. It wasn't about the taste; no, the taste was fleeting. It was about the gesture, the ritual. The moment something opened in your hand and offered up its sweetness without a sound.

I knew they weren't supposed to be here, that they'd come from elsewhere and overstayed, that they grew too fast and too much and strangled what couldn't outrun them. But God, they were beautiful.

My grandmother and I watched the bewitching flowers from the porch swing, the heat glazing our skin like syrup, cicadas buzzing with an electric whir. She didn't like them, not really. Said they were invasive, said they choked the roots of better things, said they looked too lovely to be trusted. But still, she taught me how to pluck them.

We sat in silence most evenings, our legs sticking to the plastic lawn chairs, the waves in my hair frizzed into a knotty cloud of mousy brown. Anything but quiet felt too loud in that kind of haze. But we shared the silence gratefully, passing it back and forth between the vines and the gnats and the swelling dusk.

Once, she let me climb onto her lap while she braided my hair with tiny ribbons we'd found in a drawer, humming a tune she had learned as a girl, and I remember thinking that nothing in the world could be sweeter than that moment, the sunlight catching the strands and her hands moving so carefully.

By midsummer, the honeysuckles had crept further. They bloomed from the cracks in Grandpa's shed, curled into gutters, pressed their thin green wrists through the lattice beneath the house. Tools rusted where vines had brushed them. The fence bowed under their weight. Grandma began to mutter when she walked the yard. She slapped blossoms from her ankles, cursed under her breath in ways that made me blush. At supper, she chewed slowly, glancing toward the windows as though



expecting to see them peering in. I laughed once, said "they're just flowers," and she gave me a look that froze the breath in my lungs. "They're not," she snarled.

Some nights, I swore I saw them stir. Not growing – moving. Blossoms slithering toward the windows, vines reaching across the shutters like fingertips. When the wind died, I still heard them rustling, a whisper too soft to be leaves alone. Sometimes, in the thickest heat, the air itself seemed braided with perfume, so heavy you could choke on it. I woke one night with the taste of nectar on my tongue though I hadn't plucked a flower in days.

Grandmother stopped coming to the porch altogether by late July. She sat inside with her fan rattling in the window, her chair angled so she could watch the yard. I joined her sometimes, but the air

in the house felt just as thick, swollen with sweetness. The vines had pressed through the cracks in the siding, slipped behind the wallpaper, curled in places where we couldn't see the roots but heard the boards groan beneath them.

By August, the cicadas had gone quiet. The yard was too still, too watchful. I thought of the vines as listeners, as patient mouths waiting to be fed. My grandmother's bible stayed open on the kitchen table, but I never saw her read it. Sometimes, she pressed her palm flat against the gilded pages and then pulled away, leaving them trembling in the draft from the fan. She smelled of honeysuckle now, faint but constant, as though the flowers had pressed themselves into her skin. I felt a strange mix of awe and unease, realizing she was shrinking from the porch, from the sun, from speaking; the stillness of the house, her silence, pressed into me with the same sweetness and weight as the flowers themselves.

Then came the night the air refused to move. Not a breath of wind, not a sound of wings. I woke to a silence so absolute I could hear my heart pounding in it. The whole house was dark except for the faint silver wash of the moon through my curtains. I crept out of bed, bare feet cold on the boards, and padded toward the porch.

The honeysuckles were everywhere. They had billowed across the floorboards, flowers glowing pale in the moonlight. They clung to the ceiling, the rails, the doorframe. And there, in my grandmother's chair, I saw the vines had braided themselves into the arms, blossoms resting where her hands should've been.

I called for her. The flowers answered, their mouths opening soundlessly, dew glinting at their throats.

I didn't step closer. I couldn't. The scent was thick enough to drown in.

In the morning, the chair was empty. My grandmother's room was empty too, the fan still running, her bible closed. I asked my grandfather where she had gone, but he only stared at the shed, at the lattice, at the fence bowing lower each day. He did not answer me. He never did.

The petals browned and fell soon after, littering the porch like flakes of ash. I swept them away myself. The vines, of course, remained, coiled behind the walls, humming against the wood.

Now, when the sky hums low and the air thickens, I remember that summer. Honeysuckle and hunger. Sugar and rot. When the nights are hot and the air drips gold, I still taste nectar on my tongue – sharp and sweet, as though plucked from a blossom that has already grown under my ribs.

More than the game: How I balance life as a student-athlete

MCRAE STEPHENSON
Philip Simmons High School junior

Being an athlete has always felt effortless. There are games to play, teammates to laugh with, and practices that demand both physical and mental growth. For me, volleyball season has never just been a sport. It's where I feel most capable, most confident, most like myself. It has been that way since I was seven.

School, however, exists in a different rhythm. It is structured, demanding, and unrelenting. For student athletes, life often becomes organized around performance. Practice schedules dictate afternoons, games consume evenings, and success in a sport can quietly become a measure of self-worth. Sitting in a classroom for hours, shifting from equations to essays to

lectures, feels disconnected from the intensity and movement of the court. Yet the separation is an illusion. School does not pause for athletics. It lingers, unfinished and unavoidable, long after practice begins.

High school exposes the tension in ways I was not prepared for.

I cannot remember the last practice that passed without the thought, "I have a test tomorrow," lingering in the back of my mind. Freshman year disrupted any sense of balance I thought I had mastered. Practices remained constant, but academic expectations expanded rapidly. Assignments grew longer, deadlines more frequent, and the margin for error smaller. There were days I arrived late to practice, not out of indifference, but because I was finishing assignments in the car or staying after school to ask questions I

could not afford to leave unanswered.

Exhaustion became routine. Physical fatigue from practice merged with the mental strain of maintaining academic performance. I found myself moving between two identities, the disciplined student working to meet expectations and the committed athlete expected to perform without hesitation. Each demanded focus, energy, and consistency. Neither allowed for compromise. Attempting to fully invest in both often felt less like balance and more like division.

What remained largely unseen is that the life of a student-athlete is not defined by competition alone. It is shaped by late nights spent studying after games, early mornings following little rest, and the constant negotiation between responsibility and passion. It requires discipline not only in per-

formance, but in time management, resilience in the face of pressure, and the willingness to persist even when success in one area seems to come at the expense of another.

Over time, my understanding of what it means to be a student-athlete has shifted. It is not about excelling without flaw, nor about maintaining perfect equilibrium between school and sport. Instead, it is about adaptation. It is about recognizing limitations, adjusting priorities, and continuing forward despite the strain.

Volleyball remains the place where I feel strongest, but the experience of balancing it with academics has developed something more enduring. It has taught me resilience, not as a concept, but as a practice.



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'Iron Horse domination' Girls', boys' track and field teams lock it in en route to state titles

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

The Philip Simmons High School track and field program is solid gold.

The girls' and boys' teams won state championships May 15 at Richland Northeast High School.

The Iron Horse girls captured the Class AA state title with a 159-51.33 victory over Landrum High School. Woodland was third with 50.

"Some teams rely on talent, but ours relies on unity," girls' coach Emma McCauley said. "Our kids trusted the process, locked in as a family, and it resulted in Iron Horse domination."

The boys breezed past Fairfield Central, 107.5-48. Mid-Carolina was third with 46.

"I told the kids a few weeks ago I didn't want to just win," boys coach Ryan McCauley said. "I wanted to dominate, and they understood the assignment."

The Iron Horse girls shone in the distance and field events to repeat as state champs. It was their fourth state title in nine years. The boys' team earned their third state championship.

Laura Perry claimed gold in the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs with respective times of 5 minutes, 11.73 seconds and 11 minutes, 35.21 seconds. The 4x800-meter relay team claimed first in 9:47.42, while the 4x100- and 4x400-meter relay teams picked up bronze medals.

Ashley Roush won the pole vault, clearing 3.8 meters while placing second in the long jump and third in the high jump. Julia Reilly lept 10.91 meters to win the triple jump.



Flynn Taylor won the 800-meter run in 2:16.30 and was second in the 1,600-meter run. Stella Winger claimed silver in the 3,200.

Jordyn Washington-Spencer won the shot put with a put of 9.1 meters, while Ashlyn Johnson placed second in the 200-meter dash and third in the 100-meter dash.

The Philip Simmons boys won two gold medals. Jeremiah Richardson won the 200-meter dash in 21.79, and the 4x800 relay team's clocking of 8:09.41 topped the field.

The Iron Horse 400 relay team won a silver medal. Montrell Mungin was second in the 400-meter hurdles, and Brady Cobb was second in the 200 dash.

Brian Stambaugh was third in the 3,200 run, and Jack Robinson won a bronze medal in the javelin.

BE GIRLS PLACE THIRD



Meanwhile, the Bishop England track and field teams had impressive efforts at the Class AAAA state championship, which was contested at Richland Northeast.

The Bishop girls finished in third place in the team standings. Hilton Head won with 65.5 points while Westside was second with 58. The Bishops tallied 48 points.

South Pointe won the boys' championship, scoring a 61.5-61 victory over May River. Seneca was third with 42. The Bishop boys were ninth with 27 points.

Katie Griffin won the Bishops' only gold medal of the day clearing 3.58 meters to win the pole vault. Olivia Allen won bronze in the 400 dash.

The meet marked Nora Brahim's final appearance as a Bishop. She finished in fourth place in both the 1,600 and 3,200 runs.

Jackson Muller led the Bishop boys with a second-place finish in the 800 run.

Bishop England girls' soccer team to play for state championship

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
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Linda Brady knows all about the agony of defeat.

She was on the sidelines last May as an assistant coach of the Bishop England girls' soccer team and watched as the Bishops failed to convert numerous chances in last year's Class AAAA State Championship against A.C. Flora High School.

She also saw the Falcons convert one of their few chances into a goal on a header off a corner kick in the 58th minute of the intense match.

That was the difference as A.C. Flora prevailed for a 1-0 victory and was crowned state champs.

Brady, who is now the Bishops' head coach, is confident she and her squad will

experience the thrill of victory when the Bishops and Falcons clash in the Class AAAA State Championship, which will be contested May 22 at Memorial Stadium in Columbia, South Carolina.

"We expect a hard game from a tough opponent," Brady said. "The girls were heartbroken after last year's match. They know we should have won."

The Bishops enter the match with momentum and an eight-game winning streak. The Bishops have outscored foes 97-14 on the season and have been impressive in the 2026 postseason.

The Bishops opened the playoffs with a 13-0 victory over Crestwood High and followed that up with a 7-0 drubbing of Gilbert. The Bishops won a close encounter, 2-1, against Bluffton in a Lower State semi-final and punched their ticket to the State

Championship with a 2-1 overtime victory over Gray Collegiate Academy in West Columbia. The Bishops outshot the War Eagles 27-6 but could only net two goals.

The victory gave the Bishops revenge for a 4-2 loss to the War Eagles in mid-April. It also ended the War Eagles' 21-game winning streak.

PLAYOFF ROUNDUP

While the Bishop girls found success in West Columbia against Gray Collegiate, the Bishop boys did not, as the War Eagles ended the Bishops' bid for a second straight state championship.

The War Eagles and Bishops were locked in a 0-0 game that was decided by penalty kicks. They converted four while Bishop England managed only one.

The loss snapped the Bishops' six-game

winning streak and gave the Bishops a 15-6 record. Gray Collegiate Academy improved to 22-7-1 and will play Southside in the Class AAAA State Championship.

Meanwhile, both of the Philip Simmons teams' bids for state championships came up short in the Class AA Lower State playoffs.

The Iron Horse boys, the No. 2 seed in the Lower State, dropped a 2-0, two-overtime decision to top-seed Academic Magnet. The Raptors will play Buford in the state title match this weekend.

The Iron Horse boys finished with a 22-3 record.

The Iron Horse girls concluded their season with a 6-3 setback to Atlantic Collegiate. The Iron Horses finished with a 14-10 record.

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June 4	Daniel Island @ Northbridge Terrace	June 30	6 & Under Mega Meet

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

BE golfers aim for state title, PSHS soccer all-stars honored

PHILIP M. BOWMAN

sports@thedanielislandnews.com

The Bishop England High School boys' golf team was in second place after Day 1 of the Class AAAA state golf championship.

The two-day tourney ran from May 18 to 19, and was contested at the Cross Creek Golf Course in Seneca, South Carolina.

Daniel took a 301-304 lead over the Bishops, with Blue Ridge right behind in third place with a 305.

Sophomore Merritt Mathesius led the Bishops with a score of 71, one below par. Hunter Colwell shot a 76 while Evan Hovde carded a 77. Sam Pelsnik carded an 80.

Bishop England coach Jeff Burton said his team struggled on the front nine for the second straight year but recovered to be in the hunt for the state title.

"It was just like last year," Burton said. "We couldn't have designed it any worse than what we got when we returned. But

with the leadership we have on this team and one extra year under their belts, all these guys dug deep and turned it around on the back nine to chase down defending champ Blue Ridge and a very well-played Daniel squad.

"The boys are pleased even though their scores weren't the best," Burton added. "They didn't quit and dug down deep on the back nine."

PSHS ALL-STATE SOCCER

The Philip Simmons High School boys' soccer team had a stellar season, as coach Patrick Gunderson's squad enjoyed a 12-game winning streak, a 22-3 record, and an appearance in the Class AA Lower State semifinal.

But that just might be the tip of the iceberg, success-wise, if the South Carolina High School Soccer Coaches Association's all-state selections are an indicator. The Iron Horses had six players make the team, and

four were sophomores.

Senior Chris Morales was the headliner after leading the Iron Horses with 31 goals, 21 assists, and 83 points. His younger brother, Ramone Morales, was also selected.

The super sophomores include Grayson Barna, Charlie Collier, Sam Henry, and Peyton Owens.

"I think the fact that we have four sophomores making all-state speaks to the fact the program has a bright future even after losing key seniors," Gunderson said. "It also means that we will play the best players regardless of their age."

The Iron Horse girls had two players make the Class AA-A all-state team: Haley Franko and Addison Madden. The team went 14-10 and reached the Lower State semifinals.

BISHOP ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Two seniors who played on the Bishop England football team recently announced

their plans after high school.

Brody Tonon will attend Wofford College, while Hunter Alex will attend Williston Northampton.

Tonon transferred from Philip Simmons to Bishop England in time for his senior season and was tough as nails on both sides of the ball for coach Logan Hall's Bishops.

The 5-foot 10-inch, 195-pounder played running back and linebacker and excelled with 847 all-purpose yards and 10 touchdowns. He recorded 61 tackles and an interception on defense.

Alex played linebacker and had an impressive 113 stops while picking off two passes.

Another Bishop, quarterback Quinn Mahoney, announced his college plans in the fall of his senior year. He will play for Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina.



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Captain Greg Peralta and friends hold up a mahi caught offshore during a productive day on the water.

Offshore trip produces mahi, tuna, and a lesson learned



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Sometimes I get so focused on a fishing accomplishment that I forget to just have fun. This was the case on Saturday.

My nephew Conrad was in town. It had been months since we fished together, and I wanted him to catch a billfish. So, Conrad, Elliott (my son), Trent Gustafson (good fishing buddy), and I set out to do just that.

We pushed away from the dock around 5:30 a.m. and made the 60-mile run to our fishing location. Satellite data indicated a temperature and current break in 220 feet of water. Upon arrival, it was uncanny how accurate the satellite data was. The surface temperature jumped two degrees when we encountered the current break. A massive weed line had formed along the break, and tuna were crashing minnows on the surface. Elliott cast a small Shimano Current Sniper to the breaking fish and quickly

brought a sushi dinner to the boat.

As we approached the weed line, a school of mahi appeared. Trent cast a Yozuri 3D Popper to the school. Boom! A mahi crushed the lure. With tuna sushi and mahi fish tacos in the fish box, I decided to move out to deeper water in search of a billfish.

Only idiots leave a red-hot tuna and mahi bite. But I was focused on a billfish for Conrad. Rather than enjoying the hot bite, I moved the boat into 500 feet of water. After a few hours of trolling and one missed sailfish bite, I admitted that I was an idiot and moved back into shallow water, where we picked up two more mahi and another tuna.

On the ride back, we stopped in 150 feet of water and did a bit of vertical jigging for grouper. In short order, two groupers were in the fish box. All in all, it was a pretty good day. Everyone had fun. We caught enough fish for several meals. I spent time with my family and a good friend. That is the best catch of all.

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Results from 50-unit townhouse review in Cainhoy

Here are the developments before the various City of Charleston boards and committees this week, as well as results, if any, from the prior week’s items specific to Daniel Island and the Cainhoy area. More detailed agendas and results can be found at charleston-sc.gov/agendacenter.

RESULTS: TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

May 14: Cooper’s Crossing Townhomes - Proposed new 50-unit townhome development on 12.24 acres at 810 Travis Lane, Cainhoy. TMS: B2680000005. Owner: Clements Ferry Land, SC LLC. Applicant: Seamon, Whiteside & Associates, Inc. Contact: Malcolm Glenn, mglenn@seamonwhiteside.com. *Results: Revise and Return.*

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DINA COMMUNITY MEETING

Wed., May 20, 6:30-8 pm, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community Theater. Hosted by the Daniel Island Neighborhood Association, featuring updates from city and county council and CPD Team 5.

BLOOD DRIVE

May 26, 9 am-2 pm, DI Rec Center. American Red Cross blood drive.

CHARLESTON DUCK RACE

May 30, 10 am-2 pm, Daniel Island Waterfront Park. Free, family-friendly festival featuring games, activities, and the iconic duck drop into the Wando River (around 1 pm). Adopt a duck for \$10 for a chance to win cash prizes up to \$10,000. Proceeds support 20+ local nonprofits.

DI KIDS FISHING TOURNAMENT

June 20, 8:30-10:30 am, Smythe Park, \$5. 15th annual Danziger Cup for ages 4-15 (must live/work on DI; adult required). Awards for longest fish by category + grand prize fishing trip. Pre-register at danielislandfishingclub.com/events (first 150 get goodie bags).

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

Friday, July 3, 4-10pm, Daniel Island location TBD. Celebrate the nation's birthday by dressing your homes, bikes, golf carts, and businesses in red, white, and blue and join neighbors and friends for an evening of patriotic fun. Free.

REGULAR MEETINGS

AA MEETINGS -

CLEMENTS FERRY King's Cross Church: Mon. and Fri.-7:30 pm. Women's only meeting: Tues.-8 pm. 2011 Clements Ferry Rd. 843-723-9633.

AA MEETINGS -

DANIEL ISLAND Providence Church: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 am. Church of the Holy Spirit: Speaker Mtg. Sat., 7 pm; 12 Step Mtg. Wed. 7:30 pm. AL-ANON Fellowship for relatives and friends of alcoholics. Meets Thurs., 7 pm at Providence Church on Daniel Island.

STRENGTH AND

BALANCE Tuesdays, 10-11 am, DI Rec Center. All ages and levels. \$10. Contact: 843-216-6366.

CORE STRENGTH &

STABILITY Mon., 9-10 am, DI Rec Center. Improve

balance, posture, and injury prevention. All levels. \$10. Contact: 843-216-6366.

DEMENTIA/ ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 am-12 pm, Providence Church. Free. Respite Care Charleston's caregiver support group for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. A confidential space for resources and support, led by Certified Dementia Practitioners. No registration required.

CRAFTERNOONS

1st Fri. of the month, 1-3 pm at the Daniel Island Library. Contact Tim Boyle at 843-471-2952 or timothy.boyle@berkeleycountysc.gov.

DANIEL ISLAND GOP

CLUB 3rd Mon., 8 am, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community. Free. Contact Mark Smith at 843-442-8371 or Susan Chapman at 203-512-3929.

DANIEL ISLAND

LIBRARY EVENTS Capt. Daniel's Pipers Recorder Grp: Tues. 1:30-2:30 pm; Needleworkers: 2nd & 4th Tues., 11:15 am; Deepthinkers Discussion Grp: Wed., 10:30 am - noon; Social Bridge Club: Mon. 1-4 pm; Writers Group: 1st Wed., 4:30-6 pm.

DANIEL POINTE

CHAPEL Non-denominational worship in the Daniel Pointe Theater at 1:15 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sun. each month. 514 Robert Daniel Drive. Deacon Ed Dyckman: 843-367-5647 or dyckman.edward@gmail.com.

DI COMMUNITY

TOASTMASTERS 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6-7 pm, Daniel Island Library. Build public speaking skills in a supportive setting. Email: claire@eduave.com.

DI INSHORE

FISHING CLUB 3rd Tuesday of each month at Providence Church. Connect with local anglers and hear from guest speakers.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

ACBL sanctioned. DI Rec Center, Weds, noon-3 pm. Space limited, reservations required: 843-224-6778 or 843-209-1471.

ECCO FOOD DRIVE

Drop off canned goods, pasta, rice, and other nonperishables at DI Library Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri-Sat 9 am-5 pm.

EXCHANGE CLUB OF

DANIEL ISLAND 4th Tues., 5:30 pm, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community theater. dixexchangeclub.org.

INDOOR CYCLING

CLASS Tuesdays, 9:30 am, DI Rec Center. New indoor cycling class, \$10 per class, limited bikes available. Sign up in advance.

THE INFINITE

JUKEBOX Multimedia music discussion group. 2nd & 4th Thurs. at the DI Library, 11 am - noon.

LOWCOUNTRY

STREET GROCERY Fri. at Guggenheim Terrace, 10:30 am-3pm.

MASTER GARDENER

Q&A Certified Clemson MGs. DI Library, 1st Mon. of month, 4-6 pm. Soil samples tested at Clemson University for \$6 (check or credit).

POSTPARTUM

CHARLESTON SUPPORT WALKS Walks occur at 9:30 am on the 4th Friday of every month through October. Meet at the DI Waterfront splash pad.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

3rd Thursday of each month at the Daniel Island Club, 5pm. Nonprofit volunteers focus on improving Lowcountry lives. All welcome. info.rakl2020@gmail.com.

REPUBLICAN LADIES

OF DI 1st Fri. of mo., 8:30-10 am. Call/text for venue and RSVP: 714-337-6944.

ROTARY CLUBS

DI Rotary: Most Weds. 7:15 am and 2nd Tues. at noon. Cainhoy Rotary: 1st and 3rd Tues. at 6 pm. Contact: ben.laaper@gmail.com.

SENIOR MEN'S GROUP

Wednesdays, 10:30 am, DI Rec Center. Weekly social meetup with coffee and refreshments.

SOUTH BERKELEY DEMOCRATS

3rd Sun. at 4 pm, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community. berkeleydems.com. Contact: 843-216-6366.

SPRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR SERIES

Thursdays, April 23 to June 25, 5-7 pm, Waterfront Park. Enjoy live acoustic music by the Wando River. Bring a chair/blanket and picnic. Sponsored by the Daniel Island Community Fund.

TAI CHI CLASSES

DI Library: Tues. 10 am & Fri. 9 am.

WILLINGWAY'S CONTINUED CARE

GROUP Supports families struggling with substance abuse. Holy Cross Church, Mon., 6:30-7:30 pm. Rhett Crull: 843-323-7111.

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BAD GUYS

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67						68					69			
70						71					72			

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil Manausa

Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Over and Out

The words *up*, *down*, *over*, *out*, *above*, *below*, *beside*, *beyond*, *inside*, *outside*, *during*, etc. can be used as prepositions or adverbs.

Decide whether the italicized words are used as adverbs or prepositions.

1. We searched all *around* for the cat last night.
2. Come *up* to the cabin this weekend.
3. Ralph ran *down* the street after the thief.
4. A vote was taken *during* the meeting.



Answers: In order for a word to be a preposition, it must also have an **object**. An object is a noun that has a relationship to the preposition. The first two sentences do not have objects, so the italicized words are adverbs. The last two sentences do have objects, so the italicized words are prepositions. In No. 3, **street** is the object. In No. 4, **meeting** is the object.

ACROSS

- 1 Persian potentate
5 Run, as colors
10 Baggy 1920–40's suit
14 Tra trailer
15 A Stogie
16 Ticklish muppet
17 Aroma
18 To no ____: fruitlessly
19 Hermann's refusal
20 Traitor
23 Bright ones
24 Take-home pay
25 Caesar's dog
28 Part of HRH
31 Tara name
35 Soothsayer
37 Forty winks
39 WWII soldiers
40 Traitor
44 Facial spasm
45 Neither's partner
46 "Dances with Wolves" shelter: var.
47 Rose leaf
50 Horror filmmaker, ____ Craven
52 Bond, for one
53 KGB's U.S. counterpart

- 55 Crucifix inscription
57 Traitor
63 Secure
64 Persian Gulf ship
65 Peacock's pride
67 Years ago
68 Painter Hals
69 This, in Madrid
70 Jelly ____
71 Uptight
72 Marsh plant

DOWN

- 1 ____-mo
2 Trip to Mecca, var.
3 Baseball brothers
4 Town NNE of Montpelier
5 Good time
6 Sumptuous
7 Chapters in history
8 First guitarist in rock
9 Folk singer-songwriter, Bob ____
10 Apex
11 Ersatz butter
12 Exclude
13 Freight weight
21 Walkway
22 Monogrammatic car
25 Prices
26 Late golfer Palmer
27 W.E.B. Du Bois group
29 ____ nous
30 Go, team!
32 Yawning
33 Out of bed
34 Debit's opposite
36 Augsburg article
38 Teacher's favorite
41 This instant
42 Toothed wheels
43 Matriculate
48 Insight
49 Ad ____
51 Sounds in the city night
54 In the air
56 Viking
57 Patronize a restaurant
58 Largest dolphin species
59 Land of the leprechauns
60 Highland family
61 Deftness
62 Bar mitzvah, for one
63 Watch chain
66 Man-to-be

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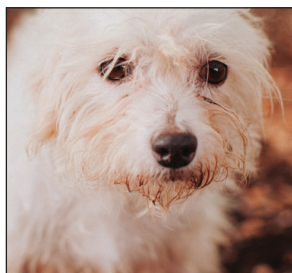
I'm Minnie, a 2-year-old medium female hound mix.



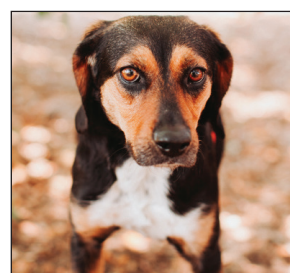
I'm Logger, an 8-year-old large male terrier mix.



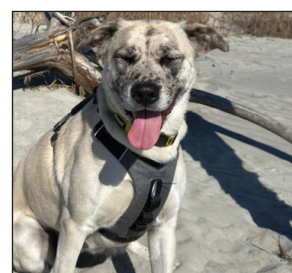
I'm Fairy Penguin, a 2-year-old medium female terrier mix.



I'm Krampus, a 7-year-old small male Maltese mix.



I'm Lilly, a 3-year-old large female hound mix.



I'm Surrey, a 2-year-old large female Siberian Husky mix.

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L	A	L	A	L	A	R	R	Y	E	L	M	O
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SUDOKU PUZZLE ANSWERS

1	6	5	7	4	9	2	3	8
4	2	3	5	6	8	9	7	1
8	7	9	2	3	1	5	6	4
2	1	4	9	5	3	6	8	7
9	3	7	8	1	6	4	2	5
5	8	6	4	2	7	1	9	3
7	4	2	3	9	5	8	1	6
3	9	1	6	8	4	7	5	2
6	5	8	1	7	2	3	4	9

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