

Pickleball Fest
is on the way!
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July 23 - 29, 2026

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PROVIDED BY MARY BENNETT ANDERSON

Beyond the Baseline campers and volunteers celebrate a week of first serves, new skills, and fun on the courts at Bishop England.



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Highway 41 expansion could reshape Clements Ferry commute to Mt. P

EMMA SLAVEN

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For drivers who regularly inch down Clements Ferry Road, one of the region's biggest traffic projects just cleared a major hurdle.

After a tense, four-hour meeting that drew a standing-room-only crowd, Mount Pleasant Town Council voted 5-4 on July 14 to keep alive Charleston County's long-debated Highway 41 expansion project – a decision expected to reshape traffic patterns for thousands of commuters traveling between Clements Ferry Road, Cainhoy, and Mount Pleasant.

The narrow vote allows the roughly \$250 million project to move forward after nearly a decade of planning, design, and environmental review. Construction is expected to break ground next year.

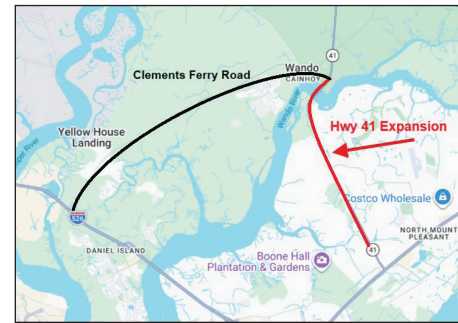
While much of the public debate focused on preserving Laurel Hill County Park and protecting the historic Phillips Community, the project begins at Clements Ferry Road, making it particularly significant for residents in Cainhoy, Point Hope, and the

rapidly growing Clements Ferry corridor.

The project will widen Highway 41 from two lanes to four lanes between Clements Ferry Road and Dunes West Boulevard, narrow to three lanes through the historic Phillips Community, and then widen back to four lanes approaching U.S. Highway 17 – a design known as the “4-3-4” plan. It also includes Laurel Hill Parkway, a new two-lane connector between Highway 41 and Park West Boulevard intended to give drivers another route around congestion during peak travel hours.

The decision comes as development continues to surge on the Clements Ferry side of the Cooper River. During the July 14 meeting, project engineer Rhett Reidenbach said approximately 12,000 additional homes are expected in Cainhoy, following the roughly 2,500 homes added in Carolina Park over the past decade. Without improvements, he warned, congestion and travel reliability along Highway 41 will continue to deteriorate.

After evaluating multiple alternatives over nine years, Reidenbach said widening Highway 41 alone would not adequately



GOOGLE MAPS

solve the problem.

“The 4-3-4 alone – without cutting across the park – wouldn’t provide adequate solutions,” Reidenbach said, adding that traffic operations would begin to fail within five to seven years after completion if Laurel Hill Parkway were not included. Instead, the new connector would give Park West and Dunes West residents another way around congestion while delivering meaningful traffic relief.

Not everyone agreed.

More than 60 residents addressed council

during a public comment period that lasted over two hours. Opponents argued the compromise plan would remove at least 1,000 trees, impact wetlands within Laurel Hill County Park, and provide only temporary congestion relief as thousands of additional homes are built nearby. Several speakers questioned whether the corridor would reach capacity well before its projected 2045 timeline.

Supporters countered that the plan avoids widening Highway 41 to four lanes through the historic Phillips Community while preserving the project’s funding.

The deciding vote came from Councilwoman Alex Crosby, who said uncertainty over whether the project could ever be funded again ultimately swayed her decision.

“No one can guarantee that we can come back later with a different plan,” Crosby said. “We’ve heard from the county that they’re not going to do it. I want to protect the Phillips community, and I just don’t see... that we can come back with a different plan.”

Construction is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2027.

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Passing the package: Daniel Island UPS Store owners to retire

MARIE ROCHA-TYGH
marie@thedanielislandnews.com

Spoiler alert: The Daniel Island UPS Store is NOT closing its doors!

Owners Todd and Julie Erickson have announced that at the end of the month they will pass the torch to a dynamic young couple, Krupa and Vivek Patel, who just settled on Daniel Island two months ago.

Since acquiring the store in 2021, the Ericksons have transformed it into a beloved community cornerstone. And now, the adventure continues with fresh faces ready to make their mark.

The store, conveniently located in the Publix shopping center, will continue to operate seamlessly, with the current staff delivering top-notch service to the community. While the Ericksons are thrilled to embark on their retirement adventure, they will collaborate with the new owners to ensure a flawless transition. They are ready and eager to assist the new owners with any questions that may pop up.

One of the things Julie will miss the

most is the people.

"I can guarantee you it'll be the social aspect we will miss," she said. "My biggest challenge will be not being able to see everybody as much. I won't see anyone hardly at all, but others I'll see around the community. But I know that's going to be my hardest thing."

Locals have showered the Ericksons with heartfelt well wishes, both online and in person. The community agrees that the couple was a unique and cherished addition, leaving a void that will be deeply felt.

Customer Kelly Martin will miss the owners. She says the Daniel Island UPS Store has been an incredible resource for both her personal and professional needs.

"I count on Julie's can-do attitude and Todd's professionalism every time. Together, they made an outstanding team and are a wonderful example of exceptional customer service and community support."

Becky Belcher has been a loyal customer since moving to Daniel Island nearly a decade ago. "I have been a frequent cus-



MARIE ROCHA-TYGH

Julie Erickson says the customers are what she'll miss most when she retires from The DI UPS Store.

tomers these past eight years and am going to miss Julie and Todd and their upbeat and friendly interactions. I know their staff will continue the top-notch service in their absence, but they will be missed!"

But customers don't need to worry. The new owners plan to continue the Ericksons' commitment to the Daniel Island community. The Patels say their values will remain at the heart of everything they do.

"Our goal is to ensure that customers continue to receive the same friendly service and dependable support they have come to expect. We recognize this store is more than just a business; it's a part of the community, and we are honored to carry that legacy forward," Vivek said.

The couple are excited to build relationships and continue providing the Ericksons' high level of service.

"As new owners, we also look forward to bringing fresh energy and new ideas while staying true to what has made the store successful," Krupa said.

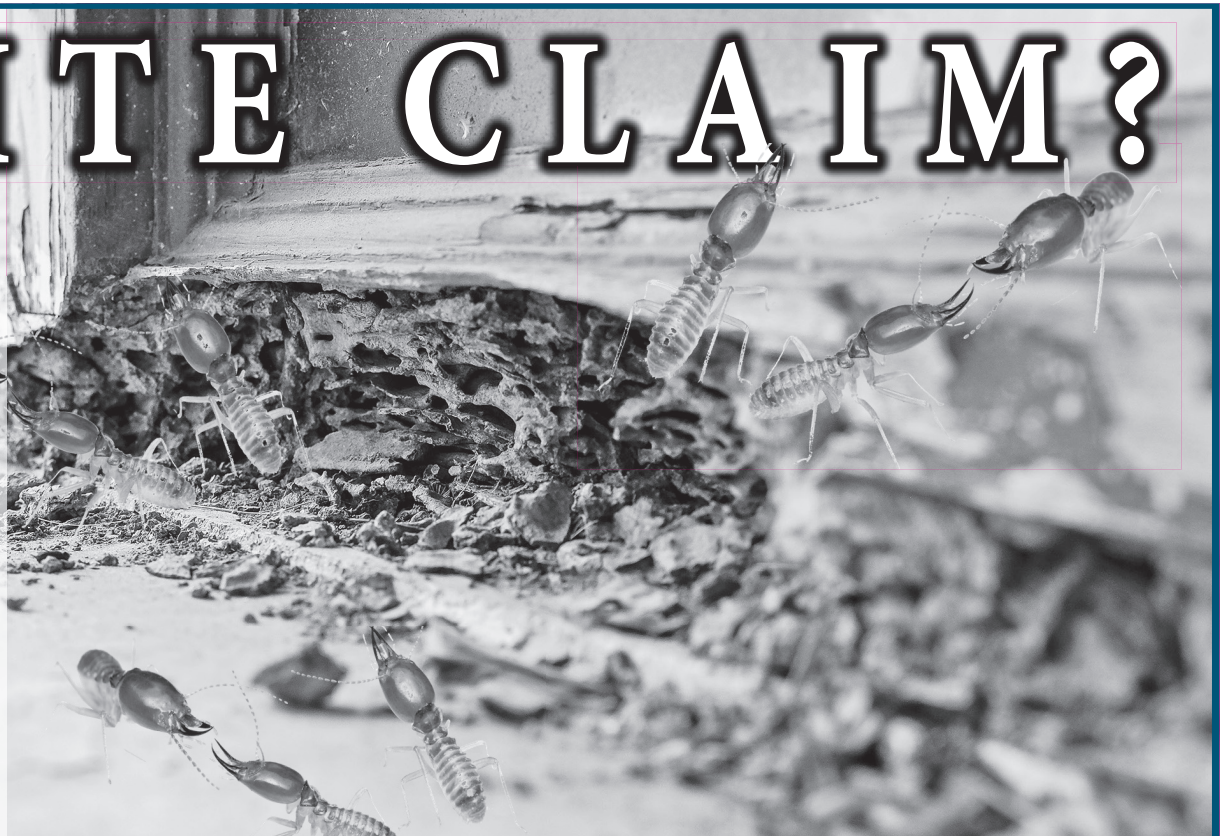
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What happens in Mexico... ends up in the newspaper

EMMA SLAVEN

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If you looked through my camera roll from our recent trip to Cancun, you'd probably think it was a picture-perfect vacation.

Crystal-clear water. Mariachi band dinners. The occasional coati climbing through the trees.

What you won't find are the moments that happened approximately 30 seconds before or after every photo – the ones that actually made the trip memorable.

Vacation photos are professional liars.

Take our budget, for example. We went into the trip with a very responsible plan: spend around \$2,100.

Somehow we managed to accomplish that in about 48 hours.

Don't ask me how. I still haven't done the math because I'm choosing peace.

Then there was the resort itself, which somehow managed to be both beautiful and impossible to navigate. Every boardwalk looked the same, every building had a tropical name I couldn't remember, and yet every single time we took a wrong turn, an iguana would be sitting there like some sort of tiny concierge.

"Looking for the pool? Follow me."

"Trying to find breakfast? This way."

By the end of the week, I trusted the iguanas more than the resort map.

Meanwhile, the pool taught me two valuable lessons.

First, there are apparently people who arrive at the swim-up bar at 10 a.m. and simply never leave. They eat there. They drink there. They become one with the water. I'll let you connect the dots on what that means for everyone else in the pool.

Second, if you sit there long enough, wonderfully over-served strangers will eventually start buying you drinks. I don't know if that's Mexi-



EMMA SLAVEN

DI News editor Emma Slaven with Spider-Man, Shrek and The Mask in Playa del Carmen. Safe to say this wasn't on the itinerary.

can hospitality or vacation math, but I wasn't about to argue.

Meanwhile, my brother spent what felt like half the vacation watching World Cup matches on his phone. We were in another country, and somehow I still knew exactly what minute every match was in.

My mom, on the other hand, had a different vacation strategy.

Every time I looked up and couldn't find her, I'd panic for about 30 seconds before spotting her in another lounge chair, fast asleep, mouth hanging open, her usual chaotic self gone and soaking up a week of zero responsibility.

Honestly, goals.

Then we ventured into Playa del Carmen. About five seconds after stepping out of the car, we were surrounded by Spider-Man, Shrek, and The Mask, all enthusiastically posing for pictures.

My mom thought they were just being friendly. Bless her heart.

The next thing I knew, Spider-Man and Shrek had hoisted me into the air while someone else snapped photos at lightning speed. Then came the request for a tip. Turns out nothing in life is free – not even being airlifted by Shrek.

Later that night, Mexico won its World Cup match, and the streets absolutely erupted. Car horns echoed through downtown, strangers cheered together, and the entire city felt like one giant celebration. My only regret? Not buying the Mexico jersey I'd been eyeing earlier that day.

Our final adventure was snorkeling off Isla Mujeres.

The brochures make snorkeling look graceful. Reality looked more like me trying to survive the Titanic.

Between the waves, the frantic breathing through the snorkel, and goggles squeezing my face so tightly I looked like I'd gotten a lip flip, I spent more time trying to stay afloat than checking out the tropical fish.

Our tour guide, Poncho, somehow kept the energy high through all of it. On the boat ride back, he had everyone dancing together, pouring tequila down our throats, and continuously reminding us, "What happens in Mexico stays in Mexico!"

Judging by some of the dance moves I witnessed, he was absolutely right.

Somewhere over the Gulf of Mexico on the flight home, I realized vacations have a funny way of making even the most ridiculous moments seem normal. Following an iguana because you think it knows the way? Makes sense. Getting picked up by Shrek? Sure. Trusting a guy named Poncho who's handing out tequila and telling everyone to dance? Why not?

It isn't until you're home that you start thinking, "What on earth just happened?"



Spill the Beans with the DI News

Know something we should know? Every great story starts with a tip. Whether it's a new business, an inspiring neighbor, a community event, or something happening around town, The Daniel Island News wants to hear about it.

Have a story idea? "Spill the Beans" by sending it to DI News editor and reporter Emma Slaven at emma@thedanielislandnews.com. You never know – your tip could be our next centerfold story.

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The hidden cost of giving

How 'middlemen' are impacting your donations

GEORGE ROBERTS

President of Meals on Wheels-Feeding Friends

When you make a charitable donation to a local nonprofit, you naturally assume that 100% of your hard-earned money goes directly toward fulfilling that organization's mission. However, a quiet and troubling shift is happening in the philanthropic space.

A vast number of third-party, "middleman" entities, including online invitation platforms, crowdfunding sites, online obituary platforms, and social media networks, are positioning themselves between generous donors and the causes they want to support. While these platforms offer convenient digital clicks, they carry a hidden cost that most donors completely miss.

We recently saw a sad example of this first-hand. Following the passing of a longtime volunteer, a neighbor used an online obituary platform's embedded link to make a \$100 memorial gift. By the time that corporate platform and its affiliated payment

processors deducted their fees, we received just \$91.80.

Beyond the financial loss, these third-party platforms create an invisible administrative burden, draining valuable time from already stretched staff members. To track down a single gift, a staff member must first create an account with the outside vendor, log in, navigate their specific dashboard, and filter through lists of individual transactions. Even when the donation is finally located, the data cannot simply be viewed or saved; it must be exported into a spreadsheet. This file is not immediately downloaded, forcing staff to wait for the platform to process and email it.

What should be a seamless process becomes a multi-step hurdle, pulling resources away from our actual mission just to retrieve basic transaction data. To make matters worse, these third-party processors routinely withhold full donor information in the name of privacy or platform ownership. Because they do not pass along mailing addresses



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or contact details, we and other charities are left completely unable to send a proper thank-you letter and express our gratitude to the donor.

This is not an isolated incident. Popular platforms like GoFundMe, Facebook, Evite, Paperless Post, PunchBowl, and many more seamlessly prompt users to "click here to donate," but they then funnel transactions through multi-layered networks that chip away at the total gift. For-profit companies are quietly capitalizing on your generosity. If 6% to 10% of a community's charitable giving is routinely redirected into the pockets of out-of-state corporations, the cumulative impact on the nonprofit sector could be enormous. Every dollar lost to corporate fees is a dollar pulled away from funding all the great work being done here locally!

There are ways we can protect our local

charities from these hidden costs. The absolute best way to ensure your generosity has maximum impact is to cut out the corporate middleman entirely. If you want to support a cause, take the extra minute to mail a traditional check, arrange a check through your bank, donate through e-check on the charity's website, or give directly by credit card on that specific nonprofit's secure, official website.

Our local charities work diligently to stretch every dollar. Let's make sure more of our community's kindness stays right where it belongs: working in our communities to change lives.

George Roberts is the president of Mount Pleasant Meals on Wheels-Feeding Friends and serves as PR director of the Rotary Club of Daniel Island.

Scavenger hunt fun returns to Daniel Island's trails

PATRICK VILLEGAS

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There's still plenty of time left for rock hounds and stone sleuths who enjoy walking the miles of trails around Daniel Island.

For the second consecutive summer, the team at the Daniel Island Animal Hospital is painting rocks and hiding them along the waterfront trail, spanning from Barfield Park to Governors Park and Guggenheim Terrace, as well as the Smythe Park loop, as part of their annual Rock Hunt.

"Next on our list is the Bishop England loop," said practice manager Eve Hosking. "So there are still plenty of opportunities for new discoveries!"

Hosking said sponsoring the hunt has simply been a way "to create a fun, free community event for the families and pet owners who make Daniel Island such a wonderful place." She said the idea grew from an activity they were already doing as a family.

"We often create little treasure hunts for our own children, where 'pirates' leave behind small candies or special little treasures for them to discover," she said. "Watching

how much excitement and joy those hunts bring inspired us to create something similar that our entire community could enjoy."

Hosking said the Rock Hunt is a great excuse to get out and explore the different parks, trails, and neighborhoods around Daniel Island – plus you have a chance to win a raffle.

If you spot a hand-painted rock, snap a picture, and tag Daniel Island Animal Hospital on its social media pages, or call or text the office at 843-881-7228 to be entered. Selected raffle winners will receive gift cards from locally owned businesses and restaurants.

"Rather than asking businesses to donate, we purchase the gift cards ourselves because we believe in supporting the local businesses that make our community so special," Hosking said.

In addition, the hospital set up an Angel Fund raffle as an optional way for people to participate if they weren't able to find a rock. Participants can make a donation for a raffle ticket with the proceeds going to support animals in need.

"We honestly lost count of how many

rocks we painted!" Hosking said. "Dr. Hosking [her husband], the girls [her daughters], and I spent an entire weekend decorating rocks. We also left supplies in our break room so our staff could join in the fun and create their own unique designs. It truly became a team effort."

There's still more than a month left in the scavenger hunt, as the raffle drawing is expected after Labor Day, on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

"We're thrilled that it's becoming a tradition. We can't wait to see all the photos everyone sends in of their special finds. We'll be hiding even more rocks soon, so keep exploring; you never know where the next one will appear!"



Mae Strenck found a hidden painted rock during a walk near Smythe Park.



Franklin found a paw print rock on his search.

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FIFA World Cup final unites locals at area watch parties

AUDRA SCHAAFSMA
news@thedanielislandnews.com

Since the start of summer, the FIFA World Cup has captivated audiences across the globe – and Daniel Island was no exception. From crowded restaurants to living room watch parties, residents came together to celebrate the world's most popular sport and the sense of community it creates.

The excitement reached its peak on July 19, when Spain defeated Argentina, 1-0, to claim the FIFA World Cup title. As the final whistle blew, soccer fans around Daniel Island, Clements Ferry, and Cainhoy celebrated alongside millions watching around the world.

Throughout the tournament, local establishments became gathering places for supporters eager to cheer on their favorite teams. Restaurants like VIVA Tacos & Tequila, New Realm Brewery, and even a special watch party at Credit One Stadium welcomed fans dressed in jerseys and team colors.

But not everyone watched from a restaurant. Many residents hosted watch parties in their homes, inviting loved ones over to expe-



PROVIDED BY VIVA TACOS & TEQUILA
Soccer fans rallied and packed DI's VIVA Tacos & Tequila on Sunday, July 19, to watch the World Cup showdown between Spain and Argentina.



PHOTO BY PATRICK VILLEGAS

rience the tournament together. Decorations, themed snacks, and spirited conversations transformed living rooms into front-row seats for one of the world's largest sporting events.

Held every four years, the FIFA World Cup is more than just a soccer tournament. It serves as a global celebration of culture and national pride.

That sense of team spirit was evident throughout the area. Whether residents were lifelong soccer enthusiasts or casual viewers tuning in for the championship match, the tournament provided an opportunity to connect with one another through a shared

experience. Strangers became friends over a common love of the game, while families created memories that will last long after the trophy presentation.

The World Cup also highlighted the power of sports to bring communities together. In a time when people are often busy with work, school, and daily responsibilities, the tournament offered a reason to gather and celebrate.

While Spain will forever be remembered as the 2026 FIFA World Cup champion, Daniel Island has its own memories to hold onto and a community united by the beautiful game.

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Pickleball Fest returns to raise funds for Lowcountry families

EMMA SLAVEN

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Pickleball has become one of the country's fastest-growing sports. On Saturday, Aug. 1, it will also become a way for Daniel Island residents to invest in families across the Lowcountry.

Landmarks for Families will host its second annual Pickleball Fest at LTP Daniel Island, bringing together players and local businesses for a day of friendly competition that raises money for the nonprofit's programs serving more than 350 children and families.

"The mission of Landmarks for Families is to cultivate thriving children and families," said Landmarks Vice President Megan Reilly. "We work with families at all stages of need — from prevention and education to a group care facility for youth ages 14 to 21 in the custody of the Department of Social Services to reunification services.

"All of our families are facing struggles — sometimes concrete needs, sometimes parenting issues, sometimes choices beyond their control," Reilly said. "Still, all families and youth deserve the opportunity to grow and



PROVIDED BY BEEMOK

Grab a paddle for a purpose at Landmarks for Families' Pickleball Fest on Saturday, Aug. 1, at LTP Daniel Island.

change and to be treated with dignity. Whether we are coming alongside the whole family or caring for a teenager placed in our care, the goal is long-term, generational change."

The fundraiser supports the organization's family education, preservation, and reunification services, as well as residential programs for youth in foster care. This year's proceeds will specifically benefit Youth Rise!, a new initiative designed to help teens and young

adults build the skills they need for long-term success.

Participants set individual goals and receive coaching, tutoring, and training tailored to help them achieve them. According to Reilly, reaching this year's fundraising goal of \$35,000 would allow 15 residents ages 14 to 21 to continue receiving individualized support services, participate in wellness activities, such as pickleball, swimming, and gym memberships,

and develop leadership and life skills.

While pickleball may be the main attraction, Reilly said the real focus is bringing the community together.

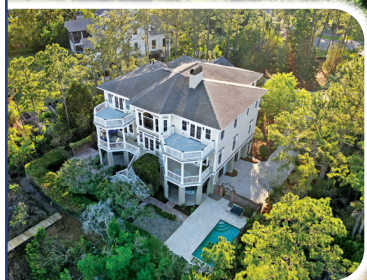
"Admission is free for spectators, and there will be something for everyone to enjoy, including balloon art for children, a food truck, an ice cream truck, and a live DJ keeping energy high throughout the day."

The tournament is expected to feature 16 teams and 32 players, with coworkers, family members, and supporters cheering them on throughout the day.

"You don't have to be a pickleball player to enjoy Pickleball Fest," she said. "Whether you're cheering on the players, enjoying great food and entertainment, or simply learning more about Landmarks for Families, you'll be part of a community coming together to support children and families who deserve every opportunity to thrive."

Pickleball Fest will take place at LTP Daniel Island, located at 162 Seven Farms Drive. Registration is open until Friday, July 24, and costs \$250 per team. To register, visit support.landmarksforfamilies.org/event/2026-pickleball-fest/e790836.

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The Pickleball Boom

The sport everyone wants to play

AUDRA SCHAAFSMA

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Across Daniel Island and the Lowcountry, a new favorite pastime is bringing people together one game at a time. Pickleball courts are filling up as players of all ages discover Charleston's newest obsession.

Pickleball, once a relatively unknown backyard game, has become one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States. It seems that almost anywhere you look, courts are packed with players of all ages, from retirees looking for a new hobby to teenagers and young professionals seeking a fun way to stay active.

What makes the sport so popular? According to many players, pickleball is easy to learn and inexpensive to play.

The sport was invented in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, Washington, by three fathers looking for a way to entertain their children during the summer. Using ping-pong paddles and a badminton court, they created a game that would eventually become a nationwide phenomenon.

Today, pickleball combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. The sport is typically played in doubles on a court about one-quarter the size of a tennis court. Players use paddles to hit a lightweight plastic ball over the net, with games usually played to 11 points.

The rules are simple enough that most beginners can pick them up in a single afternoon. Many players say it is one of the easiest sports to start and one of the hardest to stop playing.

GET YOURSELF IN A PICKLE

Part of pickleball's appeal is its accessibility. Unlike some sports that require years of experience or expensive equipment, all players really need is a paddle, a ball and a court. Many recreation centers even provide equipment for newcomers.

The smaller court also means less running than tennis, making it an attractive option for older adults. At the same time, the quick rallies and competitive nature of the game appeal to younger players.

It is not uncommon to see grandparents playing alongside their grandchildren or entire families spending an evening on the courts together.

"Pickleball is one of my family's favorite



AUDRA SCHAAFSMA

Forget family game night – on Daniel Island, more families are settling it on the pickleball court.

activities because it's something we all enjoy doing," said Daniel Island teen Weston Moldenhauer. "It's fun to compete against each other, and the fast-paced nature of the game makes it easy for everyone to join in."

The sport experienced a significant rise during the COVID-19 pandemic as people searched for activities that allowed them to exercise outdoors while maintaining distance from others. Since then, its popularity has continued to grow. Professional leagues have emerged, and communities nationwide are investing in additional courts to keep up with demand.

Locally, players can find pickleball opportunities throughout the Charleston area.

On Daniel Island, there are several places to join in on the fun, including courts at the



PROVIDED BY POINT HOPE

Six pickleball courts are slated for Point Hope's new amenity center, Doolittle Park.

Daniel Island Recreation Center, the Daniel Island Club, and LTP Daniel Island inside Credit One Stadium.

At Point Hope, six pickleball courts will also be available at the neighborhood's new amenity center, Doolittle Park.

For those looking for indoor courts, Pickleball Kingdom at Belle Hall Shopping Center and Crush Yard in Mount Pleasant offer another option. Whether you are looking to play for fun or take lessons, these locations provide opportunities for players of all experience levels to get involved.

PICKLEBALL IS A BIG DILL

For many participants, however, pickleball is about more than competition.

The social aspect of the game is one of the biggest reasons people continue to return to the courts. Between matches, players often gather to talk and enjoy time together. Unlike some sports where beginners can feel intimidated, pickleball has developed a reputation for being especially welcoming.

"I always bring my friends to the pickleball court when we're bored. It doesn't matter if they've played before or if they're good. It's just a fun environment to be around," said Daniel Island resident Parker Murphy.

That sense of community is evident on courts across Daniel Island. Players frequently rotate in and out of games, introducing themselves to strangers who quickly become regular playing partners. What starts as a hobby often turns into friendships that extend beyond the court.

And while pickleball has gained a reputation as a retirement sport, that stereotype is rapidly changing.

Younger adults are joining the sport in increasing numbers. Social media has also played a role in the trend, with videos showcasing fast-paced rallies and competitive tournaments attracting millions of views online.

Even those who initially doubted the sport often find themselves becoming regular players.

Perhaps that is the secret behind pickleball's success. It is not just about winning points or improving skills. It is about spending time with friends and finding an activity that nearly anyone can enjoy.

For a sport that began in a backyard more than 60 years ago, pickleball has come a long way.

And judging by the growing number of players, the pickleball boom is only just getting started.

'A way to serve others'

Bishop England High School senior creates Beyond the Baseline tennis camp for children

EMMA SLAVEN

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Twenty-three children lined up on Bishop England's tennis courts, racquets in hand, with parents watching from the sidelines.

Most had never played tennis before that week. Now, they had one last assignment: Hit the "perfect" forehand.

Every camper made contact. About 90% sent the ball over the net.

Not bad for a free tennis camp dreamed up by a 17-year-old after her summer plans fell apart.

Mary Bennett Anderson was supposed to travel with her mother on a medical mission trip to Uganda last June. Days before their departure, conflict in the Middle East abruptly canceled the trip.

"In the disappointment of this news, I was determined to find another way to serve others," Anderson said. "So I decided to create my own local service project."

The Bishop England rising senior began thinking about what she loved, what she had learned, and what she could offer. Tennis checked every box.

Anderson has played with her parents since she was five. The game taught her discipline, athleticism, and sportsmanship. But as one of four children, it also taught her how expensive a sport can be.

"I realized that tennis lessons, especially camps, could be cost prohibitive," she said.

Her family loved attending Vacation Bible School because it was free and all four children could participate. Anderson wanted her camp to work the same way: "No cost, no barrier, everyone welcome."

That idea became Beyond the Baseline, a free camp this summer that brought 23 children ages 6 to 11 to Bishop England's courts from July 6 to July 10.

Getting them there took more than a good serve.

Anderson reached out to feeder schools, including Divine Redeemer, where a Spanish liaison helped connect her with interested families. Then she went searching for courts, only to find most suitable facilities already occupied by fee-based camps. Bishop England's athletic director found a single open week on the summer calendar.

Once the children arrived, they learned serves, forehands, backhands, volleys, and footwork in small groups with a roughly 4-to-1 camper-to-coach ratio. Coaches followed USTA junior guidelines, using smaller courts, lower nets, low-pressure balls, and child-sized racquets. Anderson's mother, pediatrician Dr. Cameron Anderson, served as camp doctor.

Beyond the Baseline was hardly three straight hours of hitting balls. The campers watched skits, made crafts, and participated in daily devotionals centered on 1 Corinthians 9:24: "Run in such a way as to win the prize."

Each day connected a Bible story to sportsmanship: peace through Jesus calming the storm; joy through Paul and Silas; courage through David and Goliath; unity through Jesus washing his disciples' feet; and, finally, the meaning of "the prize" through John 3:16. Campers built boats, made puppets and slingshots, decorated picture frames, and created gospel bracelets.

"My goal was for the devotionals to be meaningful and applicable to every camper regardless of their own faith background, while still giving me the chance to share what I believe," Anderson said.

Turning the idea into a free camp took a community. A GoFundMe brought in \$1,955, the Church of the Holy Spirit contributed, and grants came from the Lowcountry Youth Tennis Association, the Rotary Club of Daniel Island, and the Random Acts of Kindness Club of the Lowcountry. Altogether, Anderson secured about \$4,000 – plus a long list of donated equipment, supplies, and services.

Donations covered everything from shade tents and snacks to cooling equipment, racquets, and balls. USTA South Carolina and College of Charleston tennis also loaned gear, while volunteer Brooke Olsen's non-profit, Books for Brighter Futures, gave each camper a book about a famous tennis player.

And the giveaways didn't stop there.

Each child left with a racquet, three tennis balls, a camp T-shirt, and a reusable water bottle. Some parents received racquets so they could play alongside their children. Families also took home packets listing free or low-cost tennis programs, food assis-

tance, medical and dental clinics, legal help, and English classes.

"We didn't want this to be a week that just ended and then was over," Anderson said.

"We wanted the kids to be able to keep doing what they loved after camp was done."

Anderson's parents and sister helped run the camp alongside volunteers Cooper Bondo, Frankie Carter, Bryce Clayton, Charlotte Good, Joslyn Leaf, Anika Martin, Blaise Martin, Idoia Oiarbide, Brooke Olsen, Derek Olsen, Luca Paone, Emmy Poole, and John Rosato. Most attended Bishop England, with Academic Magnet, Oceanside, and Ashley Hall also represented. Anderson's Spanish teacher, neighbors, and Random Acts of Kindness members pitched in, too.

By the night before the final showcase, Anderson had watched the campers grow enough that she stayed awake past midnight creating an individual character trait award for each one.

The next day, they demonstrated ready positions, split steps, volleys, and groundstrokes in front of their families. Then came those "perfect" forehands.

"It was after the award ceremony was completed and we were taking down the last parts of the camp that I realized that we had

accomplished every single goal we set out to complete better than we thought we could," Anderson said.

By Friday, some campers were wishing one week could stretch into a month, and their parents were already asking about next summer. Anderson hopes this was only the first serve.

"I hope to see it grow and that more good work could be done, more people could be involved, and more lives could be changed."



Beyond the Baseline offered free coaching, racquets, balls, and tennis books to children ages 6 to 11.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MARY BENNETT ANDERSON

Beyond the Baseline campers and volunteers cap off five days of tennis, teamwork, and fun at the Bishop England High School courts.

Daniel Island Club tennis team makes history, advances to USTA Nationals

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The Daniel Island Club Women's 55 & Over 3.0 USTA tennis team recently made club history by winning the USTA Southern Sectional Championship in Auburn, Alabama, becoming the first USTA league team from the club to qualify for the USTA League National Championships.

Competing through the USTA Lowcountry Tennis Association, the women captured the Lowcountry City Championship in April before claiming the South Carolina state title in May, earning a berth at sectionals. There, they faced league champions from nine Southern states, with just one team advancing to nationals. Their victory secured a spot at the USTA League National Championships this November in Mobile, Alabama.

"Sectionals was an incredible experience," team captain Cami Gilsonan said. "Every match was highly competitive, and several came down to just a few key points."

The Daniel Island Crushers went 5-0 and 14-1 individually to capture the Southern Sectional title. Gilsonan said the difference

wasn't one standout player, but the team's confidence in one another.

"What made this team so special was our depth. Every player stepped onto the court believing they could make the difference when it mattered most, and throughout the season, the team never lost confidence that someone would rise to the occasion in the biggest moments. We stayed positive, supported one another, and trusted each other from the first point to the last."

Getting to the championship was a feat in itself for Gilsonan. She had previously competed at sectionals four times but had never been able to get past the final. That breakthrough also marked a first for Daniel Island Club.

"We are the first Daniel Island Club USTA league team to qualify for the USTA National Championships," she said. "Daniel Island Club has a proud tennis tradition, and representing our club on the national stage is something we are incredibly honored to do."

The victory, she said, was years in the making.

"Several players on this team had competed at the sectional level in previous



PROVIDED BY CAMI GILSONAN

The Daniel Island Club Women's 55 & Over 3.0 USTA tennis team won the Southern Sectional Championship to earn the club's first trip to the USTA League National Championships this November. From right to left: Coach Ann Harrah, captain Cami Gilsonan, Amy Baker, Deidre McMurtry, Dianne Potts, Gail Russell, Lora Dennis, Martha Daley, Mickey Peart, Missy Moran, and Tricia Gottlieb. Not pictured: Elke Pizzo and Linda Porter.

years but had fallen just short of winning the sectional title," Gilsonan said. "Finally breaking through made the victory even more meaningful."

She credits much of the team's success to coach Ann Harrah.

"Ann is an exceptional leader who brings organization, experience, encouragement, and positivity to every match," Gilsonan said. "She has a remarkable ability to build team chemistry while ensuring every player feels valued and prepared."

That chemistry extended beyond match day.

"All of our players are members of the Daniel Island Club tennis program, and together we've become a close-knit group that genuinely enjoys competing together," she said. "That camaraderie has been one of our greatest strengths throughout the season."

The championship roster includes captain Cami Gilsonan, coach Ann Harrah, Amy Baker, Deidre McMurtry, Dianne Potts, Elke Pizzo, Gail Russell, Linda Porter, Lora Dennis, Martha Daley, Mickey Peart, Missy Moran, and Tricia Gottlieb.

Now, after making club history, the team has one more goal in sight.

"We've already accomplished something very special by reaching nationals," Gilsonan said. "But we're certainly not going just to participate – we're going to compete."

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PSHS state volleyball champs visit USC, reload for 2026 season

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The Philip Simmons High School girls' volleyball team isn't resting on its laurels after winning the program's first state championship last fall.

In fact, the Iron Horses didn't get much rest over the summer as they prepped for the 2026 season.

Coach Jay Watterworth's squad just completed a camp at the University of South Carolina to cap a busy summer that included meshing talent, building esprit de corps – and hitting the weight room.

"Each summer we hold workouts a few times a week so that players start to get familiar with one another again," said Watterworth, who proclaimed winning a state championship was the ultimate goal when he was named coach in 2017. "We also attend a volleyball camp as a team every summer to work on team chemistry. This year we attended USC camp and were camp champions."

It's that type of work ethic and mindset that put the Iron Horses on top of the Class AA mountain in just nine years.

Every year, the affable coach circled the date of the state championship. Finally on Nov. 8, it was mission accomplished as the Iron Horses defeated Landrum High School, 3-0, in a match for posterity's sake that was contested at Dreher High School.

The Iron Horses weren't perfect. But they were close, as they didn't drop a match in four postseason matches. The victory over Landrum capped a 38-5 season and gave Philip Simmons a 238-66 record in its brief history.

"Winning a state championship was a thrilling experience, and our goal is to make it back to Columbia in November," said Watterworth, a fourth-generation educator. "The keys to accomplishing this are to continue to pursue excellence in everything we do. It's the way we attack practice, the classroom, the weightroom, and our relationships with one another. Having our seniors step into different leadership roles will also be critical."



PROVIDED BY PSHS

The Philip Simmons 2026 volleyball squad attended summer camp at the University of South Carolina and returned home as camp champions.

The Iron Horses will be experienced and have solid depth in their 10th season of existence.

"Counting the libero, there are seven starting positions on the team, and we return six of seven starters," Watterworth said. "Class AA Player of the Year McRae Stephenson returns alongside all-state performers Dani

Gehringer and Gabby Kakalev."

Stephenson recorded 201 kills last fall with a .501 hitting percentage. She tallied 59 aces and 54 blocks. Gehringer tallied 92 aces, 187 digs and 582 assists while Kakalev collected 230 kills, 85 aces, and 280 digs.

Like all other sports, defense wins championships, and the Iron Horses should shine in that phase of the game.

"Catherine Futch will anchor our defense in the starting libero role for the third straight season," Watterworth said. "Mary Wells Mazur is a four-year starter outside, and Ashlynn Johnson exploded for us in the playoffs last year at the opposite position and has had a good summer."

Another reason for Philip Simmons' success is the program has a strong junior varsity program, headed by Kate Sablotsky.

"Several of those players will be called up to the varsity squad this year," Watterworth said. "It's too early to tell how big an impact they will add, but ask me again in a month, and I bet many will emerge on that list."

Stay tuned.

Sold on determination Iron Horses' Coach Bendig sells team on continued success

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Eric Bendig knew his job would involve more than X's and O's when he was named the coach of the Philip Simmons High School football team when the school opened in time for the 2017-18 academic year.

He also had to sell the program to student-athletes that first season when the Iron Horses competed at the junior varsity level only. The next season, the Iron Horses posted a 2-8 record in their varsity debut.

Today, the Iron Horses are one of the top football Class AA programs in the Palmetto State. Bendig has proved to be one of the best coaches – and salesmen – in the state.

The Iron Horses took their lumps in the early years but used it as a learning experience. Since 2021, the Iron Horses are 48-14.

The Iron Horses had 113 players participate in spring practice at the varsity, junior varsity, and B-team levels after posting a

10-3 record last fall. The Iron Horses won the Region 6-AA championship and reached the third round of the state playoffs.

The numbers should be similar when Bendig's crew opens fall practice on July 31. Look for the Iron Horses to continue their winning ways as Bendig continues to sell the program to potential student-athletes.

"I still look at it like I am selling it every day," Bendig said. "I tell our players that we have to sell it every day. I tell that to our coaches. We want to build sustained success and be the standard for how football programs are measured in our area. The only thing easier is that we do have proven results to show from the work we put in over the years."

The Iron Horses are strong contenders to

win a third straight Region 6-AA championship as Bendig welcomes back nine starters on offense and nine starters on defense.

Could this be the year when the Iron Horses hoist a state championship trophy?

"Our expectations haven't wavered in the nine years we have been around," Bendig said. "We have had success on the field with region titles and making meaningful runs in the playoffs."

"State titles are hard to come by, and we need to focus one game at a time, one championship at a time: Region, Lower State, State," the coach added. "If we do what we have the ability to do, we will give ourselves the best shot to be in a run for it."

The team has put in the work in the weight room over the summer, and that will pay dividends this fall.



"We had a great summer," Bendig said. "This group comes in every day, and we ask them to work and build each other up. It is a very close-knit group, and they have worked very hard."

Key returners on offense include quarterback Hayes Goddard, wide receivers Ashton Kellermann, Patrick Clarke, and Blake Johnson, and linemen Sullivan Tollison and Christian Cromedy.

Key players on defense include defensive ends Alex Tchoryk and Roman Hood, linebacker Nathaniel Elsey, Rico Curry, defensive back Omonte Taylor, and Ryland Donley.

Look for the Iron Horses to play with passion.

"We need to play with a fire like we never have before," Bendig said. "We are not a team that can afford to start slow or make mistakes to give moments of the game away. I want us to play with a chip on our shoulders like we still are out there proving to everyone that we are a championship team."

College basketball doubleheader to be played outdoors at Credit One

PHILIP M. BOWMAN

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It has been home to some memorable events in 25 years, including concerts ranging from a Funk Fest in its early days to Elton John's farewell tour in 2023.

It also hosted a Davis Cup showdown in September 2004 when the U.S. played Belarus in a men's tourney that is considered the "World Cup of Tennis."

And it was the home of the AVP volleyball's Charleston Open for two years, beginning in 2007.

Now, Credit One Stadium, home to one of the WTA's biggest events, The Charleston Open, will host an outdoor college basketball doubleheader on Sept. 27, the LinkU Invitational. The exhibition showcase will feature the University of Virginia, Vanderbilt University, The Citadel, and College of Charleston.

The one-day basketball experience is being described as a "first-of-its-kind" outdoor college basketball doubleheader as the green clay court of Credit One Stadium will be converted into a hardwood court.

The hoops fest will feature the Cavaliers from the ACC and the Commodores from the SEC and should be a slam dunk when it comes to fan interest.

"College basketball has passionate fan bases, rich traditions, and a unique ability to bring communities together," said Bob Moran, president of Beemok Sports & Entertainment.



ment. "From the longstanding rivalry between the College of Charleston and The Citadel to welcoming Virginia and Vanderbilt to Charleston, this event brings together outstanding programs unlike any other. It's a reflection of our commitment to creating experiences that go beyond the game while showcasing Charleston as a premier destination for sports fans."

The first game will feature UVA vs. Vanderbilt at 1 p.m., and the day culminates with the Cougars and Bulldogs in a crosstown showdown, slated for 3 p.m.

But the LinkU Invitational will be more than a couple of games on the marquee. It will also offer fans an immersive weekend focused on the teams and will include fans having access to the kind of up-close, behind-the-scenes experiences that a traditional game-day ticket does not offer.

On Saturday, Sept. 26, fans can attend practice sessions for all four teams, and later that day The Riviera Theater, in downtown Charleston, will host an exclusive Chalk Talk with coaches and players.

On gameday, Credit One Stadium will offer its typical family-friendly entertainment and a gameday atmosphere before Vanderbilt and Virginia tip off at 1 p.m. followed by the College of Charleston and The Citadel.

"The LinkU is thrilled to host a special experience at Credit One Stadium in a true one-of-one event," said Austin Elrod, Founder & CEO of LinkU. "Bringing together two powerhouse programs and two historic Charleston rivals for an unforgettable day in an outdoor tennis venue is something that's never been done before."

The announcement of the hoops doubleheader came just days after Credit One Stadium hosted a World Cup watch party when the U.S. team played Belgium. About 4,000 fans attended as Credit One Stadium had one of the biggest watch parties in the country along with Portland, Oregon; Kansas City, Missouri; San Diego and San Jose, California; and Washington, D.C.

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PROVIDED BY GREG PERALTA

Capt. Greg Peralta and Brody show off an early morning redfish caught before things got really heated.

Give early fishing a try during the dog days of summer



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Recently, my family travel schedule has been hectic. However, early Saturday morning, the schedule for Elliott (my son), Brody (the amazing fish-finding and stock-trading dog), and myself aligned for an early morning fishing trip. We pushed away from the dock just after sunrise and planned to fish the first half of the incoming tide.

On the ride to the Wando River, the air temperature was comfortable, but we knew it was going to get scorching hot. We agreed to catch a few fish and get back to the dock before the heat became unbearable.

In the heat of the summer, an early morning incoming tide is the optimal time to fish. The return of cooler ocean water drops the water temperature in the rivers and creeks and triggers predators to feed. It is also Brody's favorite time to fish. He says fishing in a fur coat in July is not

much fun. With a heat index forecast to be in the triple digits, Brody wanted to be off the water and in air conditioning by 10 a.m. Elliott and I agreed.

We stopped at a shallow oyster point. Elliott deployed the trolling motor, and we began our search for redfish. Elliott cast his Z-Man Finesse TRD to the oyster point. I cast mine into deeper water. After a few casts, I caught and released a flounder and a trout.

About then, Elliott located a school of decent-size redfish. We could easily see them milling around an oyster bar. Elliott carefully positioned the skiff to give me a good cast to the school. Bam! Inshore slam complete.

For the next hour or so, we consistently caught and released trout and redfish. When the temperature got too hot for Brody, it apparently got too hot for the fish as well. With our mission accomplished, we called it a day.

The dog days of summer are upon us. To beat the heat, give early morning fishing a try – especially if there is an incoming tide.

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The Daniel Island News earns Best of Show, multiple honors in 2026 PALMY advertising awards

EMMA SLAVEN

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The Daniel Island News earned multiple statewide honors in this year's PALMY advertising competition, including Best of Show in Division K for a print ad created by graphic designer Jan Marvin.

The PALMY Awards highlight advertising excellence among South Carolina's daily and weekly newspapers, with entries judged across design, creativity, messaging, and overall impact. This year's competition included submissions from publications across the state, with awards presented in both small- and large-circulation divisions.

"We are privileged and honored to have such an amazing team of ad designers," said Managing Publisher Patrick Villegas. "These awards not only reflect their creative artwork, but also their dedication to helping

our local business partners thrive. We are thrilled to share this success with all of our Daniel Island News advertisers."

Marvin earned Best of Show for her ad design of The Joyful Florist floral shop. The design also placed first in Category 6: Gifts (Divisions K & L Combined).

The Daniel Island News also received first place in Category 16: Newspaper Promotion for its "Best of Daniel Island" campaign, designed by graphic artist Cary Howard. (Divisions K & L Combined)

In Division K (under 7,500 circulation), the newspaper received third place in Category 8: Restaurants/Nightlife for a Wasabi Daniel Island advertisement created by Marvin and Advertising Director Ronda Schilling.

The publication also earned third place in Division K, Category 21: Half Page or Greater for The Daniel Island Club promoting the "Class of 2025," created by Marvin



MARVIN



HOWARD



SCHILLING



VILLEGAS

and Schilling.

Rounding out the honors, the paper earned third place in the Open Division for Category 13: Use of Imagery for the "Spring Blitz Bundle!" campaign, credited to Marvin, Schilling, and Villegas.

The PALMY Awards recognize advertising excellence across South Carolina's

newspaper industry, honoring creative work that connects local businesses with readers through print and digital storytelling.

A full list of statewide winners is available at scpress.org/2026-palmy-advertising-awards.



Guardian of history Keith Gourdin leads charge to honor Berkeley's Revolutionary War patriots



Several names connected to Daniel Island and the Cainhoy Peninsula made the list for the new Patriot Memorial, including Robert Daniell (descendant of Daniel Island namesake, Gov. Robert Daniell), Thomas Addison, Richard Beresford, Lewis Fogartie, and Richard Fordham.

ELIZABETH BUSH

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Driving past the place where the U.S. Highway 52 and the 52 Bypass converge in Moncks Corner several years ago, something caught the eye of Berkeley County native Keith Gourdin.

Planted on the roadside, near the centuries-old live oaks that adorn a portion of the former Epsom Plantation property, Gourdin spotted a "For Sale" sign. His heart sank at the thought of it turning into a commercial or residential development.

A lover of all things history, particularly America's Battle for Independence, Gourdin knew this place was special. The nearly five-acre parcel is close to several significant Revolutionary War activities, such as the Battle at Moncks Corner and the Skirmish at Biggin Church. It also sits adjacent to the corner that inspired the town's name.

"This is an extremely important location," said Gourdin. "I thought, 'We cannot let this place be sold. It's got to be put

into a conservation trust of some kind.'"

Gourdin took the matter to the Town of Moncks Corner and to Berkeley County government, stressing the significance of the site and the "golden opportunity" to do something meaningful to showcase its Revolutionary War history. Both entities agreed and joined together to purchase the property in 2025. It has since been dedicated as a new public space dubbed "Revolutionary Park" and is now a part of the Berkeley County Greenbelt.

As this project was unfolding, Gourdin was already hard at work on another history-related endeavor that he began in 2018. He and his friend, the late Charles Baxley, former director of SC250, had been talking about the upcoming celebration of America's 250th anniversary. By the time the momentous event arrived, Baxley wanted to be sure all Berkeley County patriots who served were recognized, as well as significant sites documented.

"I've really taken his request to heart in trying to determine what was in Berkeley County," Gourdin said. "'What happened?



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH BUSH

Berkeley County resident and history advocate Keith Gourdin stands in front of the new Patriot Memorial at Revolutionary Park in Moncks Corner.

Where did it happen? Where were the sites?" And so that's why I went in and started digging."

Gourdin is not a veteran himself, but he has many ancestors who were – including Revolutionary War hero Gen. Francis Marion, his fourth great-granduncle. Gourdin took the research he had and added to it, while joining forces with other history-minded individuals and groups, such as the Berkeley 250 Francis Marion Commission, the Berkeley Museum, the Col. Hezekiah Maham SAR Chapter, the Huguenot Society of South Carolina, and the Daniel Island Historical Society.

He compiled as many stories as he could and turned them into educational materials and historic markers. Much of his work is showcased on the website, bygoneberkeley.com. To date, nearly three dozen Revolutionary War sites have been identified in the county, including a location known as Addison's Ferry Landing on the Cainhoy Peninsula, where more than 700 Continental reinforcement troops arrived from New York in April of 1780.

"The more I studied, the more I started asking questions, reading, researching... we came up with so many more sites," Gourdin said. "So, as of today, when we include Addison's Ferry, we've got 33

sites in Berkeley County. I don't know that there's anybody else in the state that's got that number!"

Gourdin's list of patriot names was modest at first. But by late June of this year, the tally had grown to 386. It is constantly evolving as new information is discovered. He is calling on community members to keep searching their own family lines.

"Who were these heroes that were in their families that we don't even have listed? I think it should give our older residents of the county more incentive to try to find out."

Fittingly, on July 1, just days before the nation celebrated its much-anticipated ses-
tercentennial, the names Gourdin and his team collected were displayed at the new Revolutionary Park in Moncks Corner. It was a proud moment for Gourdin.

"If you put them in the ground, bury them, and you don't do anything, they are forgotten," he said. "You bring them back to life by doing this, because there they are. If we can memorialize these names, then they will not be forgotten."

Plans call for enhanced signage and interpretive trails to be added to the park down the road.

"It's a really good start," Gourdin said.

Daniel Island Historical Society Board Member Tory Sullivan serves alongside Gourdin on the Berkeley County Greenbelt Commission and has witnessed the impacts of his contributions.

"His passion is infectious!" Sullivan said. "There is so much important information about Berkeley County history locked in his mind. One of the things I admire most is his ability to activate others in the cause. Keith is shepherding and propelling us all forward to enlarge the story and expand what we know and understand about our collective past."

Gourdin, who turned 87 this month, is showing no signs of slowing down his historic pursuits. In addition to his Revolutionary War efforts, he is also working to collect the names of all Black veterans in his home community of Pineville, so they, too, can be properly recognized.

There will no doubt be more stories to tell, more lives to honor, and more places to discover. And Gourdin will be front and center for it all, as long as he is able.

"We've lost so much," Gourdin said. "This is crazy for us not to try to preserve as much as we can."



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Construction of DI Golf Club teaching facility goes for review

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

UPCOMING: TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 23: The Daniel Island Golf Club Teaching & Laundry Facilities. Proposed construction of a teaching facility, laundry facility, and associated infrastructure on 3.8 acres at 600 Island Park Drive, Daniel Island. TMS: B2710000001. Owner: Daniel Island Golf Club LLC. Applicant: Thomas & Hutton. Contact: Jim Ducker.

RESULTS: TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 16: Cooper’s Crossing Townhomes. Proposed 50-unit townhome development with associated infrastructure 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 with 17-day review.*

Thursday, July 16: Daniel Island Club Lodge - Major Mod. Proposed construction of four cottages with associated infrastructure at 600 Island Park Drive, Daniel Island. TMS: B2710000001. Owner: Daniel Island Golf Club. Applicant: Thomas & Hutton. Contact: Tony Woody at woody.t@tandh.com. *Results: Open pending delivery of Development Services comments.*



HOMESTAND

JULY 21 - 26 @ THE JOE

Highlights

JULY 21	 DOG DAY Tuesday DOG T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY	TEE GIVEAWAY TO FIRST 500 FANS! DOG DAY BREED OF THE GAME: DOODLES
JULY 22	 WIENER Wednesday BRATISLAVA POLO	SPAM NIGHT 2 FOR 50¢ SPAM DOGS!
JULY 23	 THIRSTY Thursday BRATISLAVA POLO	PUNK NIGHT LEATHER JACKETS OPTIONAL, SINGING ALONG ENCOURAGED!
JULY 24	 FIREWORKS Friday POP MUSIC GIVEAWAY	MERRY MEH-MASI! CELEBRATING GIFTS THAT MAKE YOU SAY "MEH."
JULY 25	 SHOW AT THE JOE Saturday BRATISLAVA POLO	MARVEL SUPER HERO NIGHT SPIDERMAN FUNKO POP GIVEAWAY
JULY 26	 FAMILY Sunday BRATISLAVA POLO	VILLAINS NIGHT VILLAIN CHARACTERS IN ATTENDANCE!



UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE WOMEN'S

SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR

July 23, 7-9 pm, Osupure Karate. Free self-defense seminar for women ages 14+. Learn combat techniques and how to use common household items for self-defense. Under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Led by Sensei Glenn Raus. Text 843-901-8575 to sign up.

CRAFTERNOONS WITH EDIE & YVONNE

Friday, July 24, 12:30-2 pm, DI Library. Kids are invited for an afternoon of creative crafts and summer fun. Sponsored by the DI Library Society.

PICKLEBALL FEST

Aug. 1, 11 am-4 pm, LTP Daniel Island. Join Landmarks for Families' second annual pickleball tournament fundraiser supporting children and families through foster care, family preservation, and reunification programs. Enjoy pickleball, food, activities, and family-friendly fun while making a difference.

SENIOR FRAUD PREVENTION TOUR

Aug. 4, 7-8 pm, DI Library & Sept.

24, 7-8 pm, Del Webb Point Hope. Free presentations from the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office on recognizing, avoiding, and reporting scams targeting older adults. Topics include phone and text scams, AI voice scams, identity theft, and financial fraud.

FALL ACOUSTIC GUITAR SERIES

Thursdays, Aug. 20 to Oct. 22, 5-7 pm. Enjoy live acoustic music at Waterfront Park. Bring a chair or blanket and picnic. Sponsored by the Daniel Island Community Fund. Weekly artist lineup on the DIPOA Facebook page.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

Friday, Aug. 21, 5:30-7:30 pm, Point Hope Village Green. Celebrate the new school year with food from the RiverDogs food truck, live music, lawn games, fairy hair, glitter tattoos, pencil pouch decorating, and sweet treats from Mr. Narwhal's Magnificent Snoballs. Free, family-friendly, and leashed dogs welcome.

DANIEL ISLAND PUTT & CRAWL

Sat., Sept. 19, Community mini-golf crawl through Daniel Island

businesses. Play mini-golf holes at participating locations and enter to win prizes, including a \$1,000 Amazon gift card.

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. Three Legacies Speaker meeting Sat, 7 pm at Church of the Holy Spirit.

AGILITY EXERCISE CLASSES

Body and Balance Mastering Stability, Agility and Floor-to-Feet Transitions. 5-5:45pm, DI Rec Center, Tuesdays and Thursdays, \$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.

DI 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.

DI 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.

DI WATER AEROBICS

CLASS meets every Tues, Thurs, Sat at 9-10 am at Edgefield Park pool. Open to all DI residents.

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 Dr. 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 9-5.

EXCHANGE CLUB OF DI 4th Tues., 5:30 pm, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community theater. dixchange-club.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 Oct. Meet at the DI Waterfront splash pad.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

3rd Thursday of each month at the Daniel Island Club, 5pm. Non-profit volunteers focus on improving Lowcountry lives. All welcome. info. raki2020@gmail.com.

REPUBLICAN LADIES OF DI

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

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		7					1	5
	9		7	5	3		6	
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LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

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62						63					64			

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil Manausa

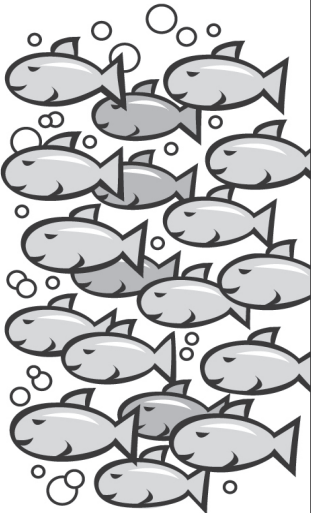
Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Collective Nouns

A collective noun is the name for a group of people, objects or animals. Choose the correct answer in the parentheses.

1. A group of witches is a (gaggle, coven).
2. A group of fish is a (set, school).
3. A group of soldiers is a (pack, platoon).
4. A group of angels is a (choir, bouquet).
5. A group of lions is a (pride, herd).



Ritz

Answers: 1. witches = coven 2. fish = school 3. soldiers = platoon 4. angels = choir 5. lions = pride

ACROSS

- 1 Earthenware fragment
6 "Saturday Night Live" sketch
10 Flat-bottomed boat
14 Armed ____
16 Subject in Manilow's "Copacabana"
17 Not within hearing distance
18 A pew word
19 Bruins GOAT Bobby ____
20 Painter ____ Borch
21 Heavy metal era?
23 Whopper teller
25 Lobe ornament
27 Small house: Brit.
29 Parisian dance
30 Jay or em follower
33 Attacked
35 Small land bodies
37 Sound omission
38 International understanding
39 "I ____ be alone": Garbo
40 Purplish-red
41 Nest ovoid
42 Ferber and Purviance
44 Joe-____ weed
45 Diffusions
47 Late comic Johnson
50 Egyptian ruler, for short
53 Bleat
55 Wally or Ronny
56 Type of rock
57 Head over heels motion
60 ____ majesty
61 So-so athlete
62 ____ go brag
63 Coin discontinued in 2025
64 Feast, in Florence

DOWN

- 1 Backless seat
2 Muslim beauty
3 Drawing in
4 17th Greek letter
5 Neatly skillful
6 Sculpin used for lobster bait
7 Barbie's beau
8 Clara Bow
9 Land of ____ Sun
10 Street talk
11 Unconscious state
12 Stylist Cassini
13 Fade out
15 Acorn growth
22 Basic dance
24 Perch
26 Cool!
28 Most overused
30 Meat buyer's choices
31 Jazz and blues singer James
32 Resident of: suffix
33 Steel mill waste
34 Lush orchestral offerings
36 Singer Lotte
37 Farm bleater
38 Right-of-way is one
40 "No ____": Roberto Durán
43 ____ red cent!
45 City near the Great Salt Lake
46 Chalcedony
48 Vacancy sign
49 Bonus
50 Mustard plant
51 He makes cakes nicer
52 Not yet final: law
54 ____ today: from now on
58 ____ in the moon
59 Hartmann von ____: German poet

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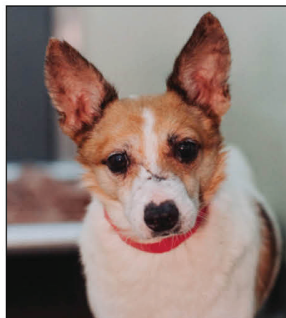
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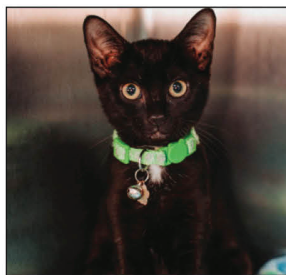
I'm Frederick, a 4-year-old small male Chihuahua mix.



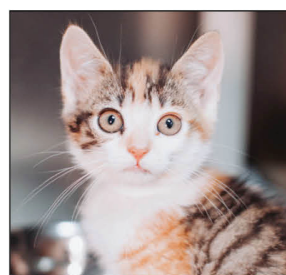
I'm Trout, a 6-month-old medium male terrier mix.



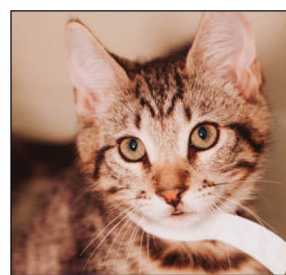
I'm Fable, a 1-year-old medium female terrier mix.



I'm Ground Beef, a 3-month-old small female domestic shorthair mix.



I'm Black Canary, a 2-month-old small female domestic shorthair mix.



I'm Diego, a 2-month-old small male domestic shorthair mix.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

S	H	A	R	D	S	K	I	T	S	C	O	W
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SODUKU PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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