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Annual Military Appreciation Gala upholds tradition to honor heroes, end veteran homelessness

EMMA SLAVEN

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It's easy to thank a veteran. It's harder to change a life.

That's the gap the Exchange Club of Daniel Island set out to close 10 years ago – one gala, one veteran, one story at a time.

On Friday, Nov. 14, the 11th Annual Military Appreciation Gala will return to the Daniel Island Club, bringing together residents, veterans, and active-duty service members for an evening of celebration and purpose. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., followed by dinner, music, and dancing at 7 p.m.

Beyond the polished table settings and live music, the event directly funds programs changing the lives of South Carolina veterans.

"November is National Veterans and Military Families Month," said Joe Delpino, past

president of the Exchange Club of Daniel Island and a retired navy veteran. "With hundreds of thousands of service members deployed overseas, recognizing the daily sacrifices made by active duty, Guard, and Reserve military families has never been more important."

The statistics Delpino shared are sobering.

Out of a U.S. population of 347 million, just 1.31 million are active-duty military – barely 0.4% of Americans. More than 460,000 service members have been exposed to improvised explosive devices, many left with lasting brain injuries. Over 50,000 veterans are unhoused, and 17 take their own lives every day, many of them without shelter or support.

"To meet the travesty of unhoused veterans in America, the Exchange Club initiated Project ZERO, an initiative to serve our veterans and to drive to zero the number of



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JOE DELPINO

The Honor Guard presents the colors during the 2024 Veterans Dinner, paying tribute to those who served. November is National Veterans and Military Families Month.

unhoused in South Carolina," Delpino said.

The Project ZERO mission is already seeing results: "We are happy to report that over 600 unhoused veterans in South Carolina are now off the streets – as well as 247 of their children – and into the program with a 91% success rate of fundamentally changing the trajectory of their lives," he said. "All the result of the generosity of participants in the Annual Military Appreciation Gala.

"To me, the military appreciation gala is

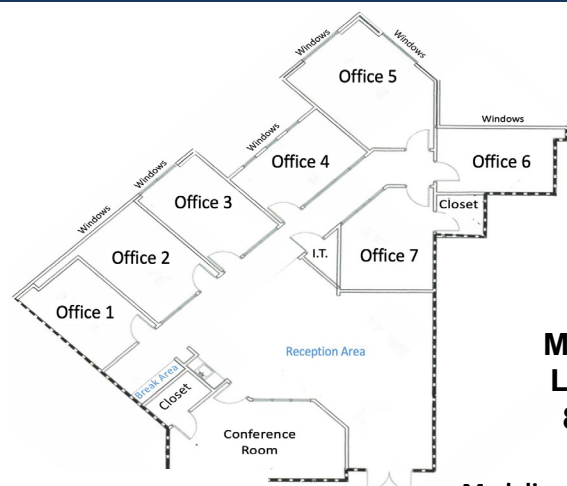
an amazing evening filled with unbridled patriotism, personalized with photographs of our service personnel," Delpino said. "It's about expressing our appreciation for their service and, importantly, knowing that we are helping transform the lives of service members who are struggling to transition after their military service."

Tickets and registration are available at dixchangeclub.org/veterans-day.

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Katana Speed hits the ground running as Point Hope's new community manager

ELIZABETH BUSH

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

If her name is any indication, Katana Speed knows how to thrive in a fast-paced work environment.

The Huger, South Carolina, native and Benedict College graduate spent 10 years in "portfolio" property management, often overseeing multiple communities at a time from a central office. But when given an opportunity to work on-site at Point Hope, a master-planned community near her home on the Cainhoy peninsula, Speed jumped at the chance to narrow her focus. She remembers getting a call from a recruiter about the job.

"I was like, Point Hope?" recalled Speed, a mother of two. "She said, 'Are you familiar with it?' Am I familiar with the area? I'm like, 'I'm there every day!' I shop at the Publix, my son goes to Philip Simmons

Middle School – that's perfect! I am part of the community."

Speed interviewed for the position of community manager for the Point Hope Property Owners' Association and was soon hired. She's been in the post since Sept. 8.

"I am the liaison between the board and the residents," Speed explained. "It's my job to enforce the policies and make sure the board is compliant, and to give them best practices as they make decisions. I then relay that to the residents and the community."

Her duties include overseeing the POA's main responsibilities: maintenance of common areas, parks, trails, ponds, and other amenities; enforcing deed restrictions and covenants; administering the design and architectural review process; and fostering community involvement and activities.

"It's making sure everything runs into this well-maintained, beautiful community," Speed said. "And that it's all kind of a well-

oiled machine."

When asked what kind of community manager she hoped to be, Speed smiled.

"I want to be a happy community manager! I don't want to be burned out or impatient, which can happen in a portfolio-type environment... where you're doing a million things at once. I want to be a respected friend. I want residents to feel like I am a friend you can check in with when you want an update. That's the type of relationship I would like to build."

Speed invited residents to call or visit The Hub, the community's information center, when they have a question or issue. "I want to make you feel like I am your neighbor as well."

She encourages Point Hope residents to educate themselves about the community's governing covenants on the POA's website, and to be patient when they have a concern.

"A simple conversation can alleviate so



many things," Speed said. "When you live in a master-planned community, you're buying into this. And everybody wants to see their property values increase. So if we all take care of the community, it benefits everyone."

Point Hope's first pool and amenity center, Doolittle Park, is slated to be completed in 2026, along with hundreds of new homes. Speed is looking forward to what's ahead.

"Just watching it all and seeing the growth, meeting new residents, seeing new businesses flourish, having more places to shop and patronize – to be part of it all and to see it firsthand – it's exciting!"

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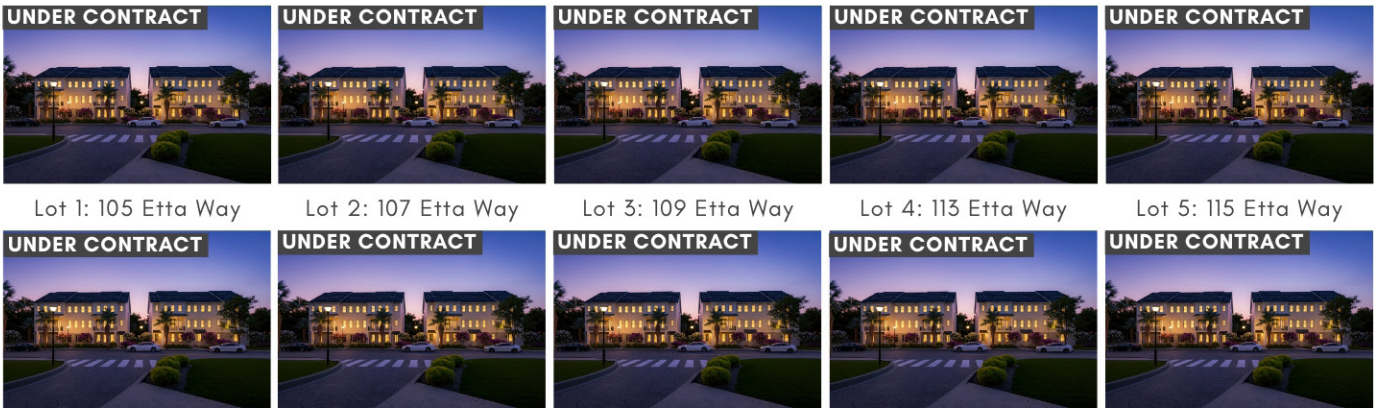


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How good are you at storytelling?



unconventional wisdom

STEVE FERBER

"Stories stick to your brain." – Tim Denning

There's great power in storytelling, but few of us have learned the art. We tell stories every day, but who among us calls themselves a "storyteller?"

Says Lisa Christen of forbes.com: "Telling a story is something we've done daily for most of our lives, and it focuses on conveying facts.

"Storytelling is about making an emotionally compelling, memorable, and relevant narrative that ties those facts together in an interesting way. Storytelling is meant to give meaning to the audience, revealing to them a new perspective and giving them the drive to think or act in a new way."

THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

Beyond simply entertaining an audience – even if that audience is a single person – storytelling holds remarkable power to inspire change and influence human behavior. As Madeline Miles

of betterup.com explains, "Storytelling has long been a tool to help affect change. It's an art and a science to create connections between human beings."

Notes Vanessa Boris on harvardbusiness.org: "What makes storytelling so effective for learning? For starters, storytelling forges connections among people and between people and ideas.... Good stories can contain multiple meanings, so they're surprisingly economical in conveying complex ideas in graspable ways."

Further, adds Boris, "Research confirms that well-designed stories are the most effective vehicle for exerting influence." Boris cites research by psychologist Jerome Bruner, who found that "facts are 20 times more likely to be remembered if they're part of a story."

TWO OF MY FAVORITE TIPS

Tip No. 1: "Turn the story into music," says Tim Denning, who cites Gary Provost's notion that stories "should have a rhythm" the way music does, by varying speed and volume.

Tip No. 2: "Starting your story in the middle," says Christian, and Nick Morgan of public-works.com quite agrees: "(You should) begin as late as possible in your story – but no later.

Stories should begin at the maximum point of interest before the climax or crisis. Put the hero and villain at the cliff's edge, have them teetering on it, then fill in any necessary back story. So many storytellers start too early in their stories, and the audience gets restless before the stakes get high enough."

TRAITS OF A MASTER STORYTELLER

"Authenticity is a hallmark of great storytellers," says Miles. "They share their own experiences and emotions openly... and they touch on universal truths."

Notes Christian: "Think of your story as a gift to others," and "make it personal."

Two more tips from Morgan: "Too much detail is a story killer," and "don't tell it chronologically." One more from Denning: "Strategically withhold information," explaining that "to become one of the best storytellers in the world, you must focus on the story's structure and strategically release dopamine to the audience."

WHAT MAKES STORIES INTERESTING?

Morgan's profound insight: "All the states of mind that most of us prefer to avoid in our real lives are what make stories interesting."

Touché.



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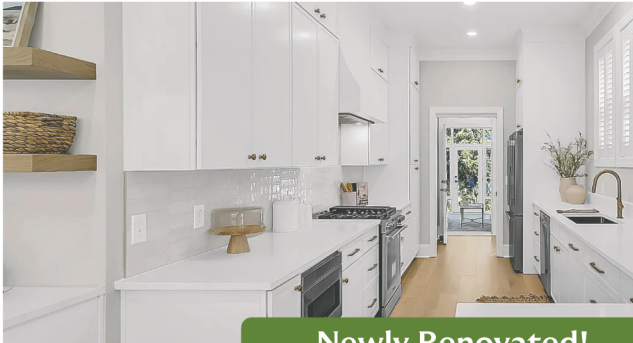


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KIDS SAY

Who in your life is your hero, and why?

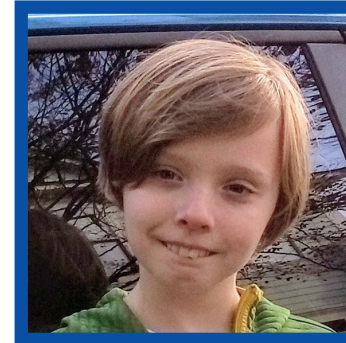
Compiled by Rose Monahan
6th grade, University School



My dad because he is strong and can pick up really heavy things!
Leo, age 6
Charleston



Superman because he is strong and brave!
Jack, age 3
Charleston



My dad because he is just a dad and is someone to look up to.
Owen, age 10
Charleston



My mother is my hero because she put a roof over my head and is such a sweet, loving person.
Minka, age 12
Charleston



My hero is my dad because he makes me laugh and shows me how to make everything fun!
Van, age 5
Charleston



My hero is my teacher because she encourages me to be brave and try new things.
Eliza, age 7
Charleston

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Aussie CrossFit star Ben Kelly, former Discovery Fitness coach, opens new DI gym

EMMA SLAVEN

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He lifts, he sprints, he motivates – and he does it all with a thick Aussie accent.

Meet Ben Kelly, Daniel Island's powerhouse of fitness.

From professional rugby fields in Australia to global CrossFit arenas, Kelly has spent decades testing the limits of the human body and mind and helping others do the same.

At one point, he was ranked No. 4 in Australia for CrossFit and No. 24 in the world. Fast-forward to 2025, when he recently claimed No. 17 globally in the CrossFit Open, competing among 5,000 international athletes in his age group. Add a second-place finish in the Masters Fitness Championship in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a first-place standing in the Fittest of the Coast Qualifier online event, and it's clear Kelly doesn't just talk the talk: he lifts, jumps, and runs it too.

At 55, Kelly is just getting started. His

coaching philosophy reflects that energy.

"I coach people from as young as 10 years old right through to clients in their 70s.

While you'd think the approach is completely different, the foundation is actually the same: everyone squats, bends, pushes, pulls, runs or walks, and twists and jumps. Those movement patterns are universal."

Kelly's approach is deeply holistic, combining exercise, diet, and mental fortitude. "A big part of my coaching now also reflects my own journey. I know firsthand the challenges that come with age. My goal is to help people lift long and strong for life."

For years, Kelly guided clients at Discovery Health & Fitness until its recent closure, and now he's returned with a fresh vision: BK Athletics, located at 234 Seven Farms Drive, Suite 113.

"Reopening BK Athletics gives me the chance to bring my vision to life," he said. "I focus exclusively on one-on-one and two-on-one coaching, so clients get the highest level of attention and personalization. This

community deserves a true performance-driven coaching space."

Social media has also become part of Kelly's reach. He shares workouts and insights with over 3,000 Instagram followers on @FitOver50Coach and now focuses on @BKAthletics2.

"Helping people understand movement, recovery, and breathing under intensity, and seeing the difference it makes, is why I share. I think I was born to coach, to inspire, and to motivate."

Kelly's competitive edge stems not just from CrossFit but from professional rugby league, where resilience and "mate-ship" were non-negotiable.

"Rugby shaped everything about how I approach training and coaching," he said. "From a young age I learned to prepare with intent, play hard, and recover well. That mindset carries through to how I coach now: hard conditioning, high standards, and attention to detail."

And yes, his Aussie accent is part of the



PROVIDED BY BEN KELLY

Former Discovery Health & Fitness trainer Ben Kelly has opened his new performance-focused gym, BK Athletics, on Daniel Island at 234 Seven Farms Drive.

package.

"The accent definitely helps with motivation; people enjoy hearing it. But I'll admit, when I get excited and talk too fast, sometimes the looks I get are like, 'What did you just say?' Over time I've learned to slow down and pronounce things more clearly. At the end of the day, whether it's the sport I grew up with or the way I speak, it's all about connecting with people and helping them get more out of themselves."

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Meet Finn Messer, the 7-year-old making YouTube silly and safe

EMMA SLAVEN

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When most 7-year-olds grab a game controller, they're chasing coins, racing karts, or battling Bowser.

But Clements Ferry resident Finn Messer had a different idea. He wanted to make YouTube itself a little safer for kids like him.

"I just wanted to make some safe content for kids if they can't find any, so that all ages can watch and see that game," Finn said. "I thought it would be fun!"

So last summer, from his family's home in The Peninsula neighborhood, Finn launched Finn's Funn Channel," a wholesome corner of the internet where laughter, gaming, and kindness rule the screen. In just over a year, he's earned 239 subscribers and more than 25,000 views, not by chasing trends or monetization, but by keeping things lighthearted and safe.

Every video is a family project. Finn's mom, Chelsea Messer, watches "literally every second" of footage with him before it goes live. They edit together, review every

game, and make sure comments are turned off.

"We're his tech crew and cheerleaders," Chelsea said. "Finn comes up with the ideas, we just help him make them happen. We set up the camera, check sound, edit clips, and make sure he feels proud of what he's putting out there. It's very much a team effort."

That team approach started out of caution. "It's a big world online, and as parents, you instantly think about safety," Chelsea said. "But when Finn asked, it wasn't just a random idea; you could see how excited he was. He had a plan, he had favorite creators he looked up to, and he wanted to make something of his own. Once we realized it could be a creative outlet and a way for us to do something together, we were extremely supportive and excited."

Finn's videos are a mix of playthroughs, Lego builds, and toy reviews, all chosen with care. Before featuring a game, Finn either plays it privately first or watches gameplay videos to make sure it's not too scary or inappropriate.

He gravitates toward cheerful, kid-friendly

titles with creative thumbnails, and his favorite video so far – "All Boss Fights in Super Mario Odyssey" – showcases every boss he's battled, complete with his signature commentary.

What Finn loves most isn't the editing or the gaming; it's making people laugh.

"I like being the silly guy for other people," he said. At school, that silliness has made him a bit of a celebrity. "My whole entire class knows my videos! It's fun when people walk up to me and say they've seen them."

Chelsea says the experience has boosted Finn's confidence, creativity, and sense of connection. "We've seen his personality shine – his humor, imagination, and kindness all come through," she said. "It's made us realize that gaming, when guided well, can be such a powerful learning tool."

For Finn, it all comes down to one message he hopes other kids take away: "Be kind, be silly, and make more safe content for other kids."

Check out Finn's videos at Finn's Funn Channel on YouTube.com.



CHELSEA MESSER

Clements Ferry resident Finn Messer, 7, is on a mission to make YouTube a little safer and a lot sillier with his kid-friendly channel, Finn's Funn Channel.

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DI author shoots for the 'Brightest Stars' with debut novel

EMMA SLAVEN

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Before she ever wrote about archangels, Daniel Island native Kristina Woodward was just a girl with her nose buried in "Percy Jackson" books and her head somewhere among the stars.

Now, at 24, she's bringing her own constellation to life with her debut fantasy novel, "Brightest Stars: A Constellation Series," a modern myth about identity, destiny, and the divine hiding in plain sight.

"It feels surreal. Like it's almost not happening," Woodward said. "I started this world during Thanksgiving in 2020, (in the) middle of my sophomore year in college, so it's been almost five years in the making, and it took two years to write it. When I sent in the manuscript after multiple rounds of edits, I almost didn't want to turn it in because that meant this project, my baby, was finally done. No more last-minute touches. Nothing. But now I'm more excited about sharing it all with everyone."

In "Brightest Stars," five strangers – Gabrielle, Rafael, Uri, Mike, and Luci – discover

they're the modern-day incarnations of archangels. Armed with wings, weapons, and destiny, they must learn to trust one another as they uncover the mysteries within Mont-Saint-Michel (an island village in Normandy, France).

"The series had started off as a lost princess story idea, and I was looking for a castle to be my inspiration for the main setting," Woodward said. "I kept coming across Mont-Saint-Michel, which, despite looking like a castle, is actually a historical abbey.

"I dove down into research about the place, and the plot idea changed from a lost princess to young adult strangers finding this new identity of theirs being archangel descendants. The history of the abbey being named after Saint Michael, the lead archangel, really inspired this world."

As a lifelong bookworm, Woodward's love of mythology and fantasy runs deep. "The 'Percy Jackson' series is actually what got me into reading," she said. "Set in a real-life place, it deals with Greek mythology but with its own fantasy spin in modern life. In all my books, I love to write in the modern world, research real locations, and get into the set-

ting of where my characters live."

The same girl who once scribbled stories in Daniel Island coffee shops is now preparing for her first book signing at Mount Pleasant's Barnes & Noble in Towne Center on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Woodward, who's been dreaming of publication since she was a kid running around the island's parks, credits her coastal surroundings as a source of inspiration.

"I think growing up in Charleston, a city full of rich history, has made me love history," she said. "When using real places in my writing, I want to make sure it's all accurate. As locals know, Daniel Island can be so nice to work outside when the weather's right. I always tried to work at a park or coffee shop to give me peace of mind."

Her message for readers is as bright as her debut's title: "I hope readers take away all the humor my characters have. That you can join this found family. That even in a real-world setting, you can find the magic and fantasy that make you escape from the real world."

"Brightest Stars: A Constellation Series" launches Nov. 25, and is available for presale at kristinawoodward.com.



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Fiction worth falling for: Your November list of best books



read all
about it

BECKY BECHHOLD

It was surprising when I looked at my list for this month, and it was void of nonfiction. Please accept my apologies. I will try to do better. But for fiction lovers, here are the November selections.

“Guilty by Definition” by Susie Dent. The author is a lexicographer and presents us with a splendid mystery set in Oxford, England, at the home of the Clarendon English Dictionary (sub for the Oxford English Dictionary). If you love words, literary references, and puzzles, you will delight in this debut novel.

“Heart the Lover” by Lily King. King is the author of “Writers & Lovers,” which was widely acclaimed. She has done it again with this story of college lovers, the breakup that occurs, and the reunion decades later that leads to clarity if not forgiveness.

“The Case of the Missing Crime Writer” by Ragnar Jonasson. You know my attraction

to Icelandic fiction, and this is another dark mystery. Good writing – atmospheric and well-paced. The finale was a shock.

“The Girl with Ice in Her Veins” by Karin Smirnov. Lisbeth Salander continues her quest for justice. Nothing will live up to the original Stieg Larsson books, but this one retains the elements of Salander’s eccentric personality, and she is maturing, which is appropriate. The second half is superior to the first half, which introduces a lot of characters and places.

“Buckeye” by Patrick Ryan. A story set in a small town in Ohio, and the entwined lives of two couples through four decades starting at the end of WWII. The depiction of a small community in that time is exquisitely rendered by Ryan, and I say that as the product of a small Ohio town.

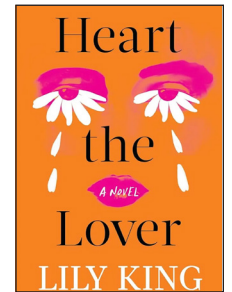
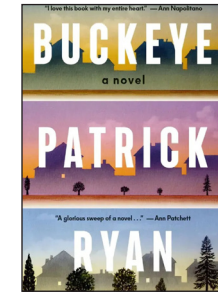
“Culpability” by Bruce Holsinger. We read this for a book club, and it provides good material for discussion. It does not provide likeable characters. A flawed story that raises excellent questions about liability and responsibility around how tech is radically changing our lives.

“Pick A Color” by Souvankham Thammavongsa. Slyly funny, this short book covers one day in the life of a nail salon owner. If you have ever had your nails done, read it and appreciate your nail technician as someone more than just a service provider.

“One Good Thing” by Georgia Hunter. Italy in WWII. Every time I read a book about that war, I learn something new. So many stories focus on France and England; this offers a new perspective. A Jewish woman trying to avoid Nazis in Italy while fleeing with her best friend’s son after his mother is “detained.” Chilling.

“Great Disasters” by Grady Chambers. Another debut novel, this one by a poet. His writing is spare and evocative as he follows six young men from a Chicago high school in 2000 through early adulthood. How they navigate disappointment, addiction, love, and their personal goals is affected by those formative teens and twenties.

“Theo of Golden” by Allen Levi. So many people recommended this book with such conviction that I felt I had to read it. A kind, older gentleman shows up in a



Southern college town and over a year makes an enormous positive change on the community. An easy read, very limited characterization – the good are very good, the bad are very bad. A tad saccharine for my taste, but truly a sweet story and a counterpoint for our current loss of discourse.

Sign up for Becky’s newsletter to get monthly book reviews in your inbox at beckysbookclub.com.



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Zinnia boutique shop celebrates 20 years of unique gifts at Belle Hall

MARIE ROCHA-TYGH

marie@thedanielislandnews.com

Step into the Belle Hall retail gift shop, Zinnia, and you'll instantly feel welcome. The Mount Pleasant store has been a Lowcountry treasure for 20 years, offering unique gifts from artisan jewelry, distinctive gifts, and home décor items.

When Terri and Joe Wischerath relocated in 2006 to the area from Maine, the pair were ready to start a new chapter. The Daniel Island residents decided to purchase Zinnia, which opened just six months earlier. Zinnia has been going strong ever since; over the decades it has become a favorite for Lowcountry shoppers.

Daughter Kelly came on board 14 years ago, never imagining the store would be celebrating such an accomplishment.

"I just can't believe it's been 20 years. I remember I flew home from Arizona as a surprise for the fifth anniversary to surprise Terri. I just remember thinking five years was a crazy long time. I never thought we'd get to 20 with all the stuff we faced."

Kelly credits perseverance and loving what she does to Zinnia's longevity in the retail world.

"Build up on the stuff you love, you know, focus on the parts of the business that you love and that will get you through everything else."

Terri has worked in retail since 1995 and shares advice for

other local business owners.

"Set yourself apart, be different in some way. Don't be a cookie cutter. Always try something new. Never take anything for granted," she said. "I think to run a successful business, you can't stay in a rut. You have to adapt."

Over the years, people have suggested they move to downtown Charleston or open another location, but Terri loves the Belle Hall area on Longpoint Road.

"We moved to Daniel Island, and we wanted to focus our business there. We're in a great little community here, Daniel Island and Mount Pleasant. Some of our customers that have been with us for 15 to 20 years. I wouldn't move anywhere else."

Kelly wouldn't move locations either. "I walk the trails almost every morning, and I see three or four people that I know by name and can greet and have a conversation with them all because of this store. I love being here where my store is and where I live."

From economic slow times to COVID-19 shutdowns, being a small business owner can be hard and all-encompassing. Terri says she really doesn't have regrets, although she might have taken more vacations.

"I would say the only regret is not traveling more. I think, with a business like this, I'm not kidding — it's 24/7. I mean, even when you're on vacation, you have a business to keep running."

Zinnia marked its 20th anniversary with a celebration



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ZINNIA

Kelly and Terri Wischerath celebrate the 20th anniversary of Zinnia — a true example of a successful family affair.

on Oct. 23 for friends, reps, and longtime supporters. The weekend wrapped up with a shopping extravaganza featuring discounts, raffles, and gifts. It was a strong beginning to the store's next chapter.

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Job well done, Sue!

Former DI News publisher leaves behind a legacy of hometown community journalism

ELIZABETH BUSH

news@thedanielislandnews.com

One thousand, one hundred, and forty-nine. That's the total number of weekly editions produced by The Daniel Island News since the first time it was delivered to island homes and businesses 22 years ago.

Heavy rain couldn't stop it.

Snow couldn't stop it.

Hurricanes and tropical storms couldn't stop it.

Not even a global pandemic could keep the newspaper away.

Every single issue went to press and has been hand-delivered each and every week since.

Daniel Island resident Suzanne Detar officially launched the community's first newspaper out of an office in her home on Oct. 30, 2003.

'A little community newspaper'

The idea to start a community newspaper came to Detar a few months before, while on a summer vacation in her native Pennsylvania. She was a young mother of three at the time, with a law degree and experience as a college professor. While sitting on the edge of a peaceful lake in LaPorte, Pennsylvania, the local paper was delivered.

"It's a little community newspaper for the entire county, and believe it or not, people actually got in their cars and drove up to the general store to get it!" noted Detar in an article on the 20th anniversary of The Daniel Island News in 2023.

Detar wanted to create a similar level of excitement and anticipation on Daniel Island – a way to keep residents and business owners informed and to celebrate community happenings. Soon, The Daniel Island News was born, and the whole Detar family pitched in to help.

"I was eight when she started the paper, and it quickly became a family affair," said Carly Stas, Detar's daughter.

"From the start, I was involved in just about everything – delivering papers on bike or wagon, even with my 5-year-old brother in the wagon, interviewing other kids for the 'Kids Say' section, and snapping photos at island events. As I got older, I took on a delivery route of my own, and those early mornings became some of my most treasured memories with my mom."

Matt Sloan, president and chief executive officer for the DI Development Company, first met Detar



FILE

The Daniel Island News takes home the President's Award for Excellence at the 2023 SC Press Association Awards for best overall weekly newspaper in its division.

shortly after she and her family moved to the island in 1997.

"At that time, we were publishing a development newsletter called The Town Crier. It was OK, but it was in our (development's) voice.

"When Sue came to talk about starting the DI News, it was an early indicator that the community had the potential to present itself as almost a small town. Many voices, editorials, advertisements, human interest pieces. It was such an upgrade, and we at the development company were so proud to be a small part of it."

"As I started at the Qwik Pack and Ship in 2004, development of Daniel Island was just getting underway in earnest," added Tom Pomposelli, one of the paper's early advertisers. "New people were moving to the island, and I recognized right away that everyone was reading The Daniel Island News. It was a throwback to a small-town newspaper that everyone read to keep up with the latest goings-on."

Now, after more than two decades at the helm of the paper, which included writing countless articles, helping clients advertise and grow their businesses,

taking thousands of photos at events, and wrapping and delivering papers with ink-stained hands, Sue Detar is taking a well-deserved retirement.

She recently sold The Daniel Island News to a newly formed DI Media Group LLC – a South Carolina-based publishing company – owned by brothers Kyle and Jack Osteen, and Vince Johnson.

'She was never trying to pull a gotcha'

Detar started The Daniel Island News largely to share the "good news" about what was happening in the community.

The annual Race for the Cure and previewing the Park Day festival were always big features, along with the annual Pumpkin Walk, Concert in the Park, the Rotary Club's Charleston Duck Race, and the Daniel Island Holiday Festival. When new businesses, amenities, and schools opened, the DI News team was there to capture the excitement.

And when weather took center stage on the paper's pages – from a history-making snowstorm in 2018 to a tornado at the Family Circle Cup in 2006 to tropical storms and hurricanes – Detar made sure the community was informed.



FILE

Detar's first DI News Instagram post captures her energy, always surrounded by newspapers, notes, and pens – the way she'll be remembered.

"It is difficult to imagine not having The Daniel Island News now," said Mac McBride, former president of the Daniel Island Neighborhood Association. "Over the years, it became the source for all of us to find out what was going on in our beautiful little town."

Under Detar's direction, sports also became an important focus.

Local teams, from recreation leagues to high school, were often spotlighted, and Detar always pulled in the entire DI News team to provide start-to-finish coverage each year of the Credit One Charleston Open.

"Sue knew the importance of sports, especially for high schools," said Phil Bowman, sports writer for The Daniel Island News. "She knew sports could unite a community and showcase the community's greatest asset: its youth. Being a (Philadelphia) Eagles fan, she knew the importance of football. But she knew there was more than just Friday Night Lights on Daniel Island. She treated all sports with the same importance, which was a big win for the Daniel Island area."

Then there were the regular-themed editions spotlighting all kinds of engaging subjects, like pets, pies, soups, books, hurricane preparedness, summer camps, and more.

Detar was also well aware that other more serious topics deserved space. There were civic and governmental issues to explore and

explain, development updates to talk about, crime to address, and political campaigns and elections to document.

Sometimes, the topics the paper covered got complex, such as the debate over affordable housing in 2005 and whether or not the island should be annexed into Charleston County (an official inquiry was held in 2014).

Detar made sure The Daniel Island News was at the front of it all, with coverage always centered on what she felt the community needed to know.

"What I appreciated most about Sue was her integrity," stated former Charleston city Councilwoman Marie Delcioppo. "She was never trying to pull a gotcha move or trip you up; she wanted to share a complete picture with her readers, upholding standards of sound journalism."

"Sometimes this meant difficult and uncomfortable conversations, but Sue handled herself with elegance and grace. It made those of us in the public eye more accountable and transparent, which is always a good thing. As a trained journalist, I can tell you, this is no easy task and one I admire greatly in Sue."

Bearing Sue's imprint

While covering the news of the day was always a priority, Detar also made sure to keep things light and inspirational.

She and her husband, Tom Werner, published many columns documenting their road travels together – first their "Dispatches from the RV," which brought readers along on their cross-country adventures in 2016 and 2017. Then, when they spent time in Australia visiting Detar's son, Ben, and his family, "Dispatches from Down Under" debuted.

The husband and wife duo also contributed a number of articles under the heading "Lowcountry Guide" to... with their takes on the best places to get Indian food, pizza, pies, and "binge-worthy" ice cream, as well as the best hikes, the best farmers' markets, and the best spots to see a Lowcountry sunset.

"No matter where in the world Sue and I traveled," her husband, Tom, said, "The Daniel Island News has been there with us – whether hunting for Wi-Fi (near) the Grand Canyon or editing from the road in Australia. Sue managed to stretch community news to include our 'Dispatches from the RV' and our 'Incomplete Guides' to whatever struck our fancy, like the best ice cream (sorry Ohio haters, but Oprah, Sue, and I agree that it's Graeter's of Cincinnati), Indian food (Taste of India, Na'an, and Spice Palette are excellent choices), or pizza (Sabatino's near Marion

Tributes to Sue

Readers, advertisers, staff, and community members share their thoughts

Delivering papers starts with wrapping them. The whole family, including my mom, would sit in the family living room wrapping hundreds of papers and talking about our day. It was our time together, and looking back, I realize how special those mornings were. My mom was building something from the ground up, and I got to watch her do it with strength, creativity, and heart. Those experiences didn't just shape the newspaper – they shaped me, too!

Carly Detar Stas, Sue's daughter

Sue's more than 20-year dedication to The Daniel Island News, its readers, and its advertisers has paid us back 20-fold in dividends.

Tom Werner, Sue's husband and partner-in-crime

In my more than 30 years of being a journalist, I've never worked for another publisher who cared more for her community, her readers, and her staff. Over the years I've worked with Sue, I've watched how on numerous occasions she put them all first before herself with the utmost integrity and ethical resolve. One of the biggest examples was during the COVID-19 pandemic when so many newspapers were shuttered or their staffs drastically cut; Sue worked tirelessly to ensure the paper continued to publish, her staff continued to be employed and paid, and her readers received the most reliable, timely local news that directly impacted them. I'm proud to be able to call Sue not only my boss, but my friend.

Boots Gifford, copy editor and former DI News editor

I'm a confirmed introvert, and Sue helped me to share college info with the Daniel Island Community. Also, need I mention? She loves pets!

Claire Law, college admissions advisor

See **WELL DONE** on **PAGE 18**

(Sue) is a true entrepreneur, always coming up with innovative ideas. Sue is a huge part of the way Daniel Island has grown over the years. Not only did she start the paper, but she was also the mind behind the Daniel Island Swim Team and helped to start field hockey. I am waiting for her to call with her next idea!

Ronda Schilling, marketing specialist

I first met Sue when she came to our house on Barfield Street in 2003 to award my husband, Jeff, with a prize from Moo-Na Lisa (former coffee and ice cream shop on the island) for winning the paper's Mystery Photo Contest. I asked if she might consider letting me write some stories, as I had a background in journalism. Sue enthusiastically said "yes," and I have been happily contributing ever since! She has been a tremendous mentor to me over the years and my greatest encourager. I will be forever grateful for her guidance and friendship.

Elizabeth Bush, freelance writer and former DI News editor

Sue taught me everything I know — she's the best boss I've ever had and has truly put her whole heart into this paper. She's the definition of a true mentor. For 22 years, she's treated this paper like her own baby, caring deeply for every person who's been part of it and shaping not just the paper, but all of us who've worked with her. When she handed the big responsibilities over to us, she said, 'Tag, you're it!' and it felt like one of those full-circle moments you never forget about. I, Patrick, and the rest of the team can only hope to carry on the incredible work she's built.

Emma Slaven, multimedia reporter

I've worked with Sue as a graphic designer for almost 18 years, and she has been a pleasure to work with. She has given me the freedom to be creative without much oversight, which has made my job fun for me. She has been a wonderful boss and friend, and she deserves to wind down and spend time with her friends and loved ones. Thank you, Sue, for your amazing leadership and friendship. May you have many blessings now and always.

Jan Marvin, graphic designer



DANIEL ISLAND FERRY

The DI News staff and its new owners celebrate Detar's retirement aboard the Daniel Island Ferry on a sunset cruise.

WELL DONE from PAGE 17

Square, hands down)."

Many of the paper's special campaigns also bear Detar's imprint.

The "What's the Big Idea?" series spotlighting entrepreneurs, the popular Daniel Island News Author Series, the annual Bark in the Park festival, the "Building to Building" profiles, and the Pigskin Pick 'Em Challenge are just a few examples.

In addition to "Kids Say," Detar also published a variety of other columns, most written by residents, such as "Meet the Merchant" (Marie Rocha), "Art Around Town" (Heather Jones), "Know Your Neighbor" (Misty Jo Nelson), "Unconventional Wisdom" (Steve Ferber), "Fishing Trends" (Greg Peralta), "Good Reads" (Becky Bechhold), "Dalton & Grace" (Bill and Ann Stevens), and her own "Field Smarts."

"We have had the pleasure of providing hundreds of these columns over the past 20 years, including an annual 'Predictions For The Year To Come' article each January," noted columnist Bill Stevens. "We had the pleasure of joining her on a few trips to Columbia for the South Carolina Press Association awards presentations, where The Daniel Island News won many well-deserved awards, and we even got a few for humor writing."

As Stevens mentioned, the newspaper has been recognized extensively for its good work over the last two decades, earning more than 350 awards from the South Carolina Press Association. The Daniel Island News received an SPCA Presidential Award of Excellence for work completed in 2023 and a Presidential Award for Best Overall Advertising, called the Palmys, in both 2023 and 2024.

"We're so grateful for all that Sue has

done to serve the Daniel Island community and our state over the past 22 years!" said Jen Madden, the SCPA's co-executive director and chief program officer.

"Her love for Daniel Island and her passion for quality journalism and newspaper advertising have been showcased in over 1,000 editions of The Daniel Island News. Each week she and her team have filled the newspaper with local news, interesting community features, and beautiful ads highlighting the people and businesses that make Daniel Island so special."

A new chapter, a new era

For Detar, retirement certainly marks the end of an era but also the start of an exciting new chapter. There will be no more deadlines, meetings to cover, columns to craft, ads to sell, last-minute edits to make. No more stressful Tuesday nights, wondering if we got it all right.

As her husband Werner puts it, "As the new ownership begins, we look forward to climbing back in the RV, walks with our dog Iggy along the waterfront, and to evenings not filled with watching reruns of 'Everybody Loves Raymond' while folding and wrapping stacks upon stacks of papers."

As the paper's mission states, The Daniel Island News has been "Promoting the Power of Community since 2003." Although you may not see Detar's name on these pages any more, that spirit and legacy of excellence will surely remain.

To Sue we offer an enthusiastic "Job well done!"

And we know the next story you write will be your best one yet.

DI swim coach Van Metre inducted into SC Swim Coaches Hall of Fame

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Rose Van Metre's coaching career dates back to 1983, when the summer league was in vogue and the venue was the old Navy base in North Charleston.

Since then, Van Metre has coached more than 2,000 swimmers at all levels. She eventually settled into double duty, coaching the Bishop England swim team and the Daniel Island Flying Fish.

She has celebrated championships and consoled heartbroken swimmers, spending countless hours helping student-athletes in their journey that is called life.

Now, Van Metre is getting her just deserts. She has been inducted into the South Carolina Swim Coaches Hall of Fame.

"I am honored and humbled," Van Metre said. "It's icing on an already very well-decorated cake. I love coaching, the relationships, the swimmers, the great times, and giving athletes an opportunity to do things they didn't think they could."

Van Metre, who graduated from Bishop England, lived in five different cities because her husband, Chris, was a submariner in the U.S. Navy. She returned to Charleston in 2006 and was named coach of the BEHS

and Daniel Island teams.

She's led the Bishops to seven state championships, including a haul of five titles by the girls.

She helped build the Flying Fish into a dominant force in the Lowcountry. The team celebrated its third consecutive City League championship over the summer. The accomplishment was magnified because the Flying Fish competed against squads that had bigger talent pools when it came to population.

Van Metre coaches from April to October. She's at the helm of the Flying Fish from May to July, and she's in charge at BE from August to October.

She will slow down – one day.

"I want to spend more time with family and especially enjoy time with my three grandchildren, who recently returned to Charleston after being stationed overseas," Van Metre said.

When it comes to memories, one is not enough.

"Picking one is hard after a career of so many blessed moments," she said. "I remember all the smiles, excitement on the pool deck, hugs, and tears (even though there is no crying in swimming.) Watching my own kids swim and then having them coach with me is a highlight. Bishop Eng-



PROVIDED

Bishop England High School and Daniel Island Flying Fish swim coach Rose Van Metre, left, is inducted and welcomed into the South Carolina Swim Coaches Association Hall of Fame by the organization's president, Cindi Van Buskirk.

land had an Option swimmer who swam the 100 butterfly. That was amazing.

"The moments that are the best are really a lot of little things that add up – when a novice swimmer swims breaststroke or butterfly legally the first time," Van Metre

continued. "I love the look that swimmers have on their faces when they better their time. And I love when former swimmers come back and help coach, and continue the Daniel Island or BE swimming culture."

Most of the swimmers that Van Metre coaches do not swim at the next level. But that doesn't mean they are done with the sport that also teaches discipline, esprit de corps, and how to get up at 4 a.m. in the morning for practice.

"I hope my swimmers foster a love of swimming and that swimming becomes a lifelong sport for them," Van Metre said. "I want swimmers to know that hard work pays off and they are capable of doing much more than they think they can. The best part of coaching high school swimming is that high school swimming is a team sport, and swimming for your teammates brings out the best in each swimmer and makes the team better."

"I am thankful for my extremely supportive family, who encourages my love for coaching. Further, DIPOA (Daniel Island Property Owners' Association) has been great to me – with both the Flying Fish and Bishops swim teams. Most importantly, I coached the greatest swimmers and met and became friends with some amazing families over four decades. I am beyond grateful."

Iron Horses repeat as Region 6-AA champs; Bishops sneak into playoffs

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

The Philip Simmons High School football team earned its second consecutive Region 6-AA championship, while Bishop England nailed down the fourth and final playoff spot in Region 6-AAAA.

That's the summary of success for the Daniel Island schools as the regular season concluded the weekend of Oct. 30-31, as both teams posted impressive victories.

The Iron Horses won for the eighth straight time with a 28-14 victory over Andrews High to improve to 8-2, 5-0. The Bishops blasted Colleton County 55-0 to improve to 7-3, 2-3.

**PHILIP SIMMONS 28,
ANDREWS 14**

The regular-season finale pitted the Nos. 1-2 teams in Region 6-AA, and the Iron Horses were crowned region champs for the third time overall in the program's eight-year history.

Quarterback Hayes Goddard had a big role in the win as his passing continued to be right on time – and on target. The junior has shown signs of quarterback maturation every week and was 20-of-26 passing for 328 yards and three TDs against the Yellow Jackets.

He enters the Nov. 7 playoff game against Whale Branch at The Phil with 128 completions in 213 attempts for 2,082 yards. The 2,082 passing yards puts him in 11th place overall in The Palmetto State, according to MaxPreps.com. He's thrown for 24 touchdowns.

Ashton Kellermann and Alex Tchoryk were his favorite targets. Kellermann caught 13 passes for 238 yards and two scores, while Tchoryk caught four balls for 40 yards and a TD.

Kellermann, one of the top juniors in the state, combines quickness, great hands, and route running. That has translated into 1,129 receiving yards, which is second among all receivers in South Carolina in yards, according to MaxPreps.

The Iron Horses will face a Whale Branch team that is entering the playoffs with a 3-7 record.

**BISHOP ENGLAND 55,
COLLETON COUNTY 0**

The Bishops trounced Colleton County at Jack Cantey Stadium in their final regular-season game, and the only thing more impressive than quarterback Will Donato was the defense's collective effort. They held Colleton County to only 60 yards in total offense as the Cougars finished with a 1-9 record for the third time in four years.

Donato, filling in for the injured Quinn Mahoney, accounted for five touchdowns as the Bishops were never challenged, taking a 20-0 lead after one stop. They pushed the advantage to 41-0 at halftime.

Donato completed 7 of 11 passes for 143 yards and four touchdowns. He was effective on the ground with 61 yards and a score.

Brody Tonon led the Bishops with four catches for 105 yards and three TDs. Zach Balog caught only one pass, but it went for 32 yards and a score.

Senior running back Mitchell Plaisance led the Bishops with six carries for 64 yards and a TD. Sophomore Chase Tonon scored on a 48-yard run.

The Bishops host Lower Richland in the first round of the Class AAAA playoffs. The Bishops are the No. 8 seed in the Lower State. Lower Richland, the No. 9 seed, enters the playoffs at 6-4.

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFF ROUNDUP

PSHS girls' golf team survives the rain, places Top 5 in state

BE, Iron Horse XC, volleyball squads begin state title chases

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

The Philip Simmons High School girls' golf team had one of its best seasons ever, claiming fourth place at the recent Class AA-A state championship.

Chesnee High School claimed its fifth straight state crown in the championship match, which was held at the Chester Golf Club in the Upstate.

The winners topped Atlantic Collegiate Academy 346-349, while Andrew Jackson High School was third 391. Philip Simmons was fourth with 418.

The tournament was scheduled for two days, but the first day was rained out. The next day began with ominous weather, but 18 holes were completed.

Kate Williams led the Iron Horses with a 94, which was good for 12th place, while Riley Harkey was 13th. Laura Bredemann, Ann Ballard Love, and Olivia Halsey all finished in

the top 40.

BISHOP ENGLAND XC

The Bishop England cross-country team fared well as it began its bid for state championship gold in Class AAAA.

The Bishops competed in the Region 6-AAAA championships, which were contested at Sgt. Jasper Park in Hardeeville, South Carolina, and had a 1-2 finish.

Region 6-AAAA is arguably the strongest division in all of Class AAAA.

The boys claimed the championship, topping Hilton Head 32-52, with May River High School third at 62. The Bishop girls finished second with Bluffton High posting a 34-50 victory over the Bishops. May River held down third place with 66.

Junior Connor Good led the BE boys with a time of 15 minutes and 59.28 seconds over the 5K course, which was good for third place. Jackson Muller, Ben Huntington, Jude Asmer, Logan Schallenberger, and Braden Sawyer all

placed in the top 10.

Nora Brahim led the Bishop girls with a time of 18:39.39. Siena D'Agostino and Addison Wood both finished in the top 10.

The Bishops will compete at the state qualifier Nov. 7 at Newberry College.

PHILIP SIMMONS XC

Philip Simmons, which has the top-ranked boys' and girls' Class AA teams in South Carolina, began its bid for more state championship hardware by winning the recent Region 6-AA championship.

The girls topped Academic Magnet 19-39, while it was more of the same with the boys, who topped Magnet 24-33 at the Avian Commons at Camp Hall in Ridgeville, South Carolina.

Laura Perry led the Iron Horses with a time of 19:10.31 over the 5K course, which was good for first place. Avah Mallek, Keziah Varner, Stella Winger, Flynn Taylor, and Ronel St. Germain all finished in the top 10.

Matthew Perry led the boys with a second-place finish, clocking in at 16:38.05. Grady Castiglia, Trent Manning, Griffin Tollison, Brian Stambaugh, and Stone Sweatman all finished in the top 10.

VOLLEYBALL

The Philip Simmons girls' volleyball team won its fifth straight match, defeating Buford High School 3-0 at The Phil in the third round of the Class AA playoffs on Oct 28.

The Iron Horses, 36-5, were scheduled to play Atlantic Collegiate Academy in the Lower State championship, slated for Nov. 4. Atlantic Collegiate, located in Conway, enters with a 10-game winning streak and a 24-5 record.

The winner advances to the state championship match on Nov. 11.

Meanwhile, Bishop England, 20-11, was slated to play Gray Collegiate Academy, 22-4, on Nov. 4 for a berth in the Class AAAA state championship, which was scheduled for Nov. 11.

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Accomplished angler angles to catch his very first redfish



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Recently, I had the opportunity to fish with Glenn VonRosenburg. We are both members of the Daniel Island Fishing Club and have known one another for a long time.

However, we had never fished together. So, when our schedules aligned, we went fishing!

Our trip started just as the tide began to fall. The water was clear and 64 degrees. Perfect conditions to target trout with lures. Glenn wanted to refine his technique with a Z-Man Finesse TRD on a 1/6-ounce NedLockZ jig.

We positioned the boat at the mouth of a creek and cast our lures into the current. When Glenn made his first cast, it was obvious that he was an accomplished angler. His casting technique was effortless and accurate.

We caught trout, but not in the numbers I would expect for this time of year. This gave us time to chat and joke around. When Glenn told me he had never caught a redfish, I thought he was joking. Glenn assured me he was not.

I told him not to worry. We would catch one today when the tide got lower. Until then, we moved around in the Wando River and caught trout. Lots of trout.

Glenn quickly picked up on the nuances of fishing a Z-Man Finesse TRD. He mastered the retrieve cadence that makes fish react to and strike the lure. About mid-tide, we moved to a shallow area with lots of oysters and switched our focus to redfish.

In short order, Glenn caught his first redfish.

Then another, and another.

However, the redfish were not particularly large. I joked with Glenn, saying these looked like redfish but only smaller. We shared a good laugh.

A few minutes later, Glenn set the hook on a much larger fish. The fight was epic. At times, it was unclear who would win. Glenn did a great job of angling, and soon, a 30-inch-class redfish came to the boat. I think I was more excited than Glenn was, and Glenn was pretty excited!

We took a few pictures and carefully released the fish. With our mission accomplished, we called it a day.



GREG PERALTA

Accomplished angler Glenn VonRosenburg, above, admitted to Captain Greg Peralta that he had never landed a redfish. By the end of the day, VonRosenburg proved his skill, proudly pulling in and releasing this beauty.

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Todd Oligino wins Pick ‘Em Challenge defeating Edie Coupe of Carolina One Real Estate



Todd Oligino

This week’s Pigskin Pick ‘Em Challenge winner, Todd Oligino, said he’s “extremely into football,” and he proved it by correctly picking 10 of the 12 games on the slate to beat the field and win Week 11.

“I know enough about football to know that you don’t bet against the Philip Simmons Iron Horses, and as a long-suffering Raiders fan, I also know that you don’t bet on the Raiders,” he joked via email.

Oligino, whose family moved down from Connecticut about 10 years ago, also defeated VIP sponsor Edie Coupe of Carolina One Real Estate, who went 7-5, and claimed a \$50 gift certificate to Vespa Pizzeria.

“I’m happy I picked well enough on the remaining games to score a gift certificate to a restaurant my family and I have always really enjoyed,” he said. “Thank you, Daniel Island News!”

Could this week be your week to nab a \$50 gift

certificate to Mac’s Daniel Island?

It’s easy to do. Scan the QR code on the next page, or visit bit.ly/DIN_football12 to fill out your picks, or email patrick@thedanielislandnews.com to receive a weekly ballot.

Submit your picks by 5 p.m. Friday, then root for your favorite teams to see if you might be the big winner. The VIP sponsor with the best record at the end of the season will receive a donation from The DI News to their favorite charity.

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88-38

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HIGH SCHOOL GAMES
Whale Branch at [Philip Simmons](#)
Lower Richland at [Bishop England](#)

COLLEGE GAMES
[Florida State](#) at [Clemson](#)
[BYU](#) at [Texas Tech](#)
[Auburn](#) at [Vanderbilt](#)
[Texas A&M](#) at [Missouri](#)
[LSU](#) at [Alabama](#)

NFL
[Saints](#) at [Panthers](#)
[Giants](#) at [Bears](#)
[Jaguars](#) at [Texans](#)
[Lions](#) at [Commanders](#)
[Rams](#) at [49ers](#)



Edie Coupe
Carolina One



88-38

**THIS
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NFL
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[Giants](#) at [Bears](#)
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[Lions](#) at [Commanders](#)
[Rams](#) at [49ers](#)



Brannon Florie
Coach's Canteen



86-40

**THIS
WEEK'S
BALLOT:**

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COLLEGE GAMES
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NFL
[Saints](#) at [Panthers](#)
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[Jaguars](#) at [Texans](#)
[Lions](#) at [Commanders](#)
[Rams](#) at [49ers](#)



Jimmy Foti
Foti Law Firm



84-42

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Lower Richland at [Bishop England](#)

COLLEGE GAMES
[Florida State](#) at [Clemson](#)
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82-44
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Lower Richland at **Bishop England**

COLLEGE GAMES
Florida State at **Clemson**
BYU at **Texas Tech**
Auburn at **Vanderbilt**
Texas A&M at Missouri
LSU at **Alabama**

NFL
Saints at **Panthers**
Giants at **Bears**
Jaguars at **Texans**
Lions at **Commanders**
Rams at 49ers



Gabe Jolly
Carolina One



82-44
**THIS
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BALLOT:**

HIGH SCHOOL GAMES
Whale Branch at **Philip Simmons**
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COLLEGE GAMES
Florida State at **Clemson**
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Texas A&M at Missouri
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NFL
Saints at **Panthers**
Giants at **Bears**
Jaguars at **Texans**
Lions at **Commanders**
Rams at 49ers



Garret McNally
Mac's Daniel Island



81-45
**THIS
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HIGH SCHOOL GAMES
Whale Branch at **Philip Simmons**
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COLLEGE GAMES
Florida State at **Clemson**
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Saints at **Panthers**
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Tyler Letson
Mount Pleasant Chrysler Dodge
Jeep Ram



79-45
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Eat or be eaten: Where friends are foes and foes are friends



daniel island nature notes

FRANK CONWAY

Most of us are familiar with the term food chain. Generally speaking, a food chain describes a linear sequence of who eats whom in an ecosystem.

More realistically, though, these chains cross, twist, and overlap, forming webs that can be far from linear. One great example is the food chains, or webs, found in our Daniel Island lakes and ponds. There are so many species here feeding on and being fed on by each other that the concept of a food chain is almost useless.

Picking just a few animals, there are fish, frogs, snakes, and rodents living in and near all of these bodies of water. Some of them feed on each other, and all of them are fed on by a number of common predators.

Egrets, herons, and alligators, for example, will all feed on fish, frogs, snakes, and rodents. Ecologists refer to a group of species that need and use common resources

in similar ways as a guild. Egrets, herons, and alligators, sharing the same habitat and consuming the same food resources, would belong to such a group.

But what if some of these predators don't just feed on their common prey but also on fellow guild members?

Alligators also eat birds. Intraguild predation is an ecological term for when species that compete for the same food resources also eat their competition. A gator that eats a heron has not only gotten a meal – he has also removed a fellow predator that could have beaten him to the next meal he might catch.

So, why are we discussing esoteric ecological terms that most of us would never use?

It's because of an incredible photo that fellow island resident, friend, and co-worker Susan Schmenk sent me recently. While walking her dog near an island pond not long ago, Susan and a friend were startled by a great blue heron swooping in nearby amid what she described as a lot of noise and thrashing.

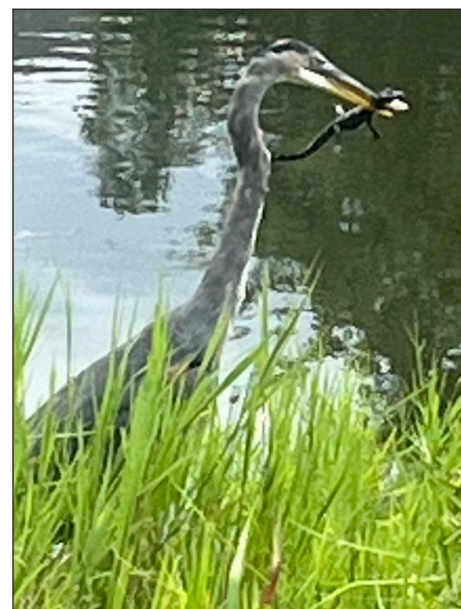
It soon became apparent that the heron

had a small alligator in its beak, which was writhing around mightily and squealing but was unable to escape. The heron soon flew to the far end of the pond with his catch, and the squealing stopped.

We now need a new term: reciprocal or mutual intraguild predation. These species not only compete for common food. They also, at least at certain stages of life, eat each other.

I recently saw an interview with Michael J. Fox about the 40th anniversary of "Back to the Future." If you are a young person – to me that means you are under 50 – and you have never seen this movie, borrow your parents' VHS player and check it out! Much like how Michael J. Fox could have changed the world (and his existence) with his trip to the future, this bird may have changed his own.

While herons don't eat adult alligators, adult alligators certainly eat herons. This bird may have, without even needing a DeLorean, reached far into the future and saved its own life or that of its mate or offspring. I don't know an ecological term for that, but I call it cool!



PROVIDED BY SUSAN SCHMENK

Daniel Island resident Susan Schmenk photographed a daily moment in the circle of life: a great blue heron turns a future would-be predator into prey.

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DANIEL ISLAND BARBER SHOP BARBER SPOTLIGHT MICHAEL PRINGLE

Michael, known as Mikey to most, is a freelance international hair care specialist. He is a licensed Cosmetology Instructor, a Master Barber Instructor, and a Certified Methods of Teaching Instructor.

What do you love most about this profession?
Michael said it allows him to interact and build great relationships with some of the leading members of the hair and beauty industry and provide beauty enhancement techniques to people of many cultures and backgrounds.



What is your favorite time of the year?

When one would find people at their happiest state of mind: good, positive, and happy energy.

If you were stranded on an island what one thing would you take with you?

Sanity. Michael said it would allow him to maintain peace, creativity, and the ability to hopefully find a way to get off that island and back to civilization.

What is your favorite food?

Any cuisine that makes Michael's taste buds do a 'happy dance.'

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Four-legged fun at the 2025 Bark in the Park festival

The tails were wagging at Daniel Island’s Waterfront Park on Saturday, Nov. 1, for the 5th Annual Bark in the Park festival. Hosted by The Daniel Island News, the event brought together dogs and their humans for a day of contests, adoptions, and community fun, all in support of the Charleston Animal Society and the Charleston Animal Society-Berkeley Campus.



Twinsies! Bianca and River take home the Lookalike Contest crown for their matching red locks.



Paws up for a nail trim!



Picture paw-fect!



Too cool for the park!



Hopeful paws and happy hearts walk toward their fur-ever homes on Adoption Row.



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TRC to weigh in on DI self-storage facility, new commercial development

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 Cainhoj area. More detailed agendas and results can be found at charleston-sc.gov/agendacenter.

UPCOMING: TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

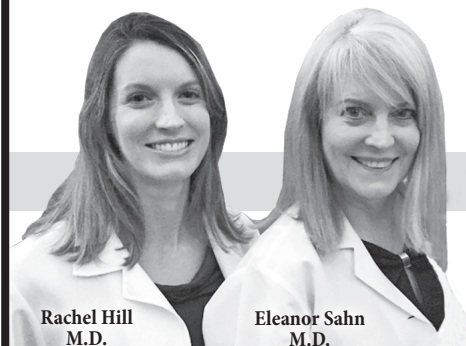
Nov. 6: Daniel Island Self Storage - Proposed revisions to previously approved TRC

plan on 21.77 acres at 460 Seven Farms Drive, Daniel Island. TMS: B2750000179. Owner: Daniel Island Self Storage LLC. Applicant: Thomas & Hutton. Contact: Brian Riley, riley.b@tandh.com.

Nov. 6: Point Hope Commercial - Parcel 0 - Proposed new commercial development at 1236 Clements Ferry Road on 3 acres. TMS: B2620000028. Owner: Seven Sticks LLC. Applicant: C Baker Engineering, LLC. Contact: Jessica Meyers, jessica@cbakerengineering.com.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DIPOA THANKSGIVING DRIVE

Nov. 4-25, Daniel Island POA Office, 130 River Landing Dr., Suite 1C, 9 am-4 pm, Mon-Thu. Daniel Island Community Foundation collects nonperishable food, hygiene products, baby items, and cleaning supplies for families in need. Donations benefit Lowcountry Food Bank, ECCO, and Lowcountry Blessing Boxes. Contact danielle.stix@dicommunity.org.

OUTDOOR MOVIE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

Fri., Nov. 7, 5:45-7:45 pm, Village Green. Enjoy "Lilo & Stitch" under the stars! Bring chairs and blankets for this free family movie night. Holy City Popcorn will be onsite and Village Green restaurants will offer specials before and during the film.

PALMETTO FREEDOM FEST

Fri., Nov. 7, 6-10 pm, Credit One Stadium. Country star Lee Brice headlines this intimate, patriotic evening benefiting Folds of Honor. Live music, food, drinks, and auctions. Tickets: palmettofreedomfest.org.

MULTI-COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Sat, Nov. 8, 9 am-12 pm, in the Peninsula, Nelliefield, and Rivers Reach communities. Shop a variety of treasures during this neighborhood-wide sale event.

5TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET

Sat., Nov. 8, 10 am-4 pm, Daniel Island Rec Center. Free entry and parking. Boutique-style market with up to 45 vendors offering unique holiday gifts, fine art, jewelry, home décor, clothing, pet products, chocolates, and more. 50/50 raffle benefits Random Acts of Kindness of the Lowcountry.

DANIEL ISLAND SPEAKER'S SERIES

Wed, Nov. 12, 6:30-8 pm, Daniel Island Club. Hear from Timothy Lemmer, former Wall Street Journal letters editor. Free, registration required at tinyurl.com/y43eum5w.

MILITARY APPRECIATION GALA

Fri, Nov. 14, 6 pm cocktails, 7 pm dinner, Daniel Island Club. Celebrate and honor veterans and active service members with dinner, music, and dancing. Proceeds support veteran charities through Project ZERO. Open to all. Register at dixchanceclub.org/veterans-day.

POINT HOPE BLUE TAG SALE

Sat, Nov. 15, 8 am-2 pm, 1049 Point Hope Parkway. Browse community yard sales throughout Point Hope with participating homes marked by blue balloons. Free and open to the public!

WATERFEST

Sat, Nov. 15, 1-4 pm, 1 River Landing Drive. Enjoy live music by the Wando River with oysters, chili, drinks, and kids' activities. New this year: scenic cruises on the Daniel Island Ferry (sign up at the event). Tickets \$10-\$50. Proceeds benefit Charleston Waterkeeper.

DIHS NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Tues, Nov. 18, 7 pm, Church of the Holy Spirit. The Daniel Island Historical Society presents "A Toast to the History of Tea," with guest speaker Darren Hartford. Learn how tea shaped Charleston and sparked a revolution. Free. dihistoricalsociety.com.

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI BLOOD DRIVE

Tues, Nov. 25, 1-6 pm, St. Clare of Assisi Parish parking lot. Donate blood and help save lives at the Red Cross Blood Mobile. Schedule your appointment at redcrossblood.org using sponsor code "stclare."

4TH ANNUAL TURKEY RUN

Thanksgiving Day, 8:30 am, Nelliefield Park. Bring family, friends, pets, strollers, bikes, and wagons for a fun 3-mile course through Nelliefield that starts and ends at the park. No registration required, all are welcome!

CREDIT ONE STADIUM TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Fri, Dec. 5, 6-9 pm, Credit One Stadium. Celebrate the season with live holiday music, Santa and Mrs. Claus, a snow show, cookie decorating, and festive fun for all ages. Free admission! Gates open at 6 pm; tree lighting at 7 pm.

DANIEL ISLAND TOASTMASTERS

Toastmasters meetings are free, open to the public. Contact Bud 843-284-6291 or clare@eduave.com.

ECCO FOOD DRIVE

Drop off canned goods, pasta, rice, and other non-perishables at Edward Jones (8:30-4), 895 Island Park Dr Suite A2.

LOWCOUNTRY STREET GROCERY

Fri. at Guggenheim Terrace, 11 am-4 pm.

ECCO FOOD DROP AT DI LIBRARY

Starting Oct. 1, the Daniel Island Library will serve as an ECCO Food Drop location. Hours: Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm; Fri-Sat 9 am-5 pm

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 Al-Anon, a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics, meets every Thurs., 7 pm at Providence Church on Daniel Island.

STRENGTH AND BALANCE

Tuesdays, 10-11 am. All ages and levels. The class is \$10 and is being held at the DI Rec Center. Contact: 843-216-6366...

CORE STRENGTH & STABILITY Mon., 9-10 am, DI Rec Center. Improve balance, posture, and injury prevention with this all-levels class designed to support healthy movement. \$10. Contact 843-216-6366.

CRAFTERNOONS Crafternoons with Edie every 1st Fri. of the month from 1-3 pm at the Daniel Island Library. Tim Boyle at 843-471-2952 or timothy.boyle@berkeleycountysc.gov.

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

DANIEL ISLAND LIBRARY EVENTS

Capt. Daniell'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: every Monday 1-4 pm; Writers Group: 1st Wed., 4:30-6 pm.

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

DUPLICATE BRIDGE Duplicate Bridge, ACBL sanctioned. DI Rec Center, 160 Fairbanks Dr. Weds, noon-3 pm. Space limited, reservations required, 843-224-6778/843-209-1471.

EXCHANGE CLUB OF DANIEL ISLAND

4th Tues., 5:30 pm, Daniel Pointe Retirement Community theater, 514 Robert Daniel Dr., dixchanceclub.org.

MASTER GARDENER Q&A Certified Clemson MGs. DI Library, first Mon. of month, 4-6 pm. Soil samples, at least two cups in a sealed plastic bag, are tested at Clemson University for \$6 per sample, payable by check or credit card only.

RECORDER GROUP Join Captain Daniell's Pipers at the DI Library every Tue. 1:30-2:30 pm. All welcome regardless of your level of playing. Richard Foreman, eflat3@gmail.com.

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

ROTARY CLUBS The Daniel Island Rotary Club meets most Weds. mornings at 7:15 am and on the second Tues. of each month at noon. The Cainhoy Rotary Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tues. of the month at 6 pm. Contact: Ben Laaper, ben.

laaper@gmail.com.

SENIOR MEN'S GROUP Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Daniel Island Rec Center. A free, relaxed weekly meetup for senior men to socialize and connect. Coffee and refreshments provided.

SOUTH BERKELEY DEMOCRATS Meets at 4 pm on 3rd Sun., Daniel Pointe Retirement Community. berkeleydems.com.

STRONG & MOBILE FUNCTIONAL FITNESS Sat., 9-10 am, DI Rec Center. A class for active lifestyles, especially pickleball players, focused on strength and mobility for sport and real life. \$10. Contact 843-216-6366.

TAI CHI CLASSES DI Library Tues., 10 am & Fri., 9 am.

THE INFINITE JUKEBOX A bi-monthly multimedia discussion group for music lovers. All music genres including: Country/western, baroque and electronia. 2nd & 4th Thurs. at the DI Library from 11 am - noon.

WILLINGWAY'S "CONTINUED CARE GROUP" helps families struggling with alcohol/drug abuse. Meetings are at Holy Cross Church, Mon., 6:30-7:30 pm. Rhett Crull, 843-323-7111.

YOGA Thursdays, 9-10 am at DI Rec Center. A mindful flow practice focusing on strength, balance, flexibility, and calm. \$8. Contact Teresa at dcommunityyoga@gmail.com.

YOGA Yoga for all levels on Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 am. \$8.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS OF THE LOWCOUNTRY Meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Daniel Island Club at 5pm. RAKL is a nonprofit organization of volunteers whose focus is improving the lives of people in the Lowcountry. All are welcome! info.rakl2020@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

For free community events, send info to emma@thedanielislandnews.com. For-profit events, contact patrick@thedanielislandnews.com.

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil R. Manausa

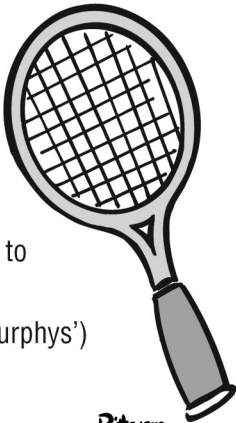
Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Pluralizing People

Making proper names plural that end in s, y or z is often confusing. Do you know the correct spellings for the following last names?

- Let's ask the (Williamses, William's, Williams') to play tennis with us.
- Did you know that the (Murphy's, Murphys, Murphys') are moving to Atlanta?
- The (Hertzs, Hertzes, Hertz's) are hosting a New Year's Eve party.



RITSPOR

Answers: 1. Williamses. If a last name ends in s, add an es.
2. Murphys. If a last name ends in y, add an s.
3. Hertzes. If a last name ends in z, add an es.
Note: Don't use apostrophes to make words plural. Apostrophes show possession.

ACROSS

- 1 A sultanate
5 What Phelps did
9 Lemur
14 Borge, for one
15 English composer
16 Sports palace
17 Wine center in Italy
18 Presley's hotel?
20 Trounce
22 Number of Roman hills
23 Contend
24 Type of horse?
25 Marathoners
27 Tincture for sprains
30 Rock chip
32 Northern craft
33 "Tobacco ____"
34 Not new
38 Part of a list
39 100 kopecks
40 Tusked swine
41 Defense group: acron.
42 Words of understanding
43 Entertain
44 It's now or ____!
46 Looked searchingly

47 Take hold of

- 50 "Cheers" regular
51 Latin lesson
52 ____ pro nobis
54 Weather map lines
58 Hammett sleuth's shingle?
61 And others, in old Roma
62 Babble
63 Together, in music
64 Gravure lead-in
65 More compos mentis?
66 Tools for swabbers
67 Seagoing Graf?

DOWN

- 1 Harem rooms
2 Alda classic
3 Pot builder
4 "Sweet Caroline" singer
5 1943 Bogart film
6 Destroy
7 Collection
8 Griffin of TV
9 Pertaining to lips
10 Hockey great
11 "Superman's" Kent
12 "Bombs bursting ____ . . ."
13 Rice wines
19 Bitter outburst
21 Deficiency
26 Rotarians, for example
27 Cognate
28 Pro ____
29 Dimitri's no
30 Abstemious
31 Ashen
33 Stratagem
35 Cream lead-in
36 Comfort
37 Famed Scott
39 Diego or Geraldo
43 Drome lead-in
45 Runaway lover
46 " . . . a pocketful of ____"
47 Door fasteners
48 Iraqi city
49 "____ is an island . . ."
50 Calisthenic move
53 Actor Baldwin
55 At the summit
56 Degree of speed
57 Blackthorn fruit
59 Fr. holy woman
60 Tokyo, once

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STOCK YOUR POND EVENT
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The Daniel Island News

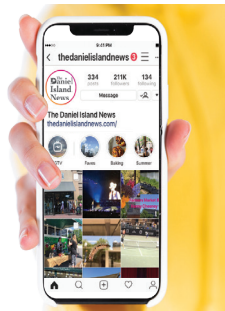
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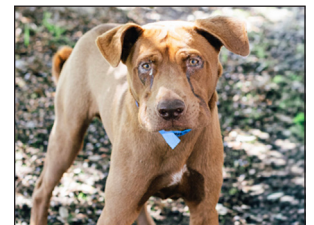
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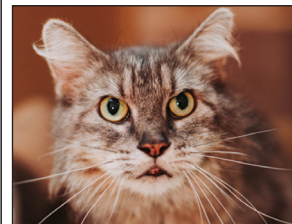
I'm Pete's Sake, a 2-year-old large male terrier mix.



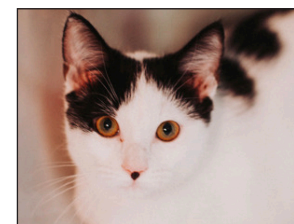
I'm Cowabunga, a 1-year-old small male terrier mix.



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SUDOKU ANSWER

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