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Grim county data reveals sobering number of preventable deaths

PATRICK VILLEGAS
patrick@thedanielislandnews.com

A deep dive into the Berkeley County Coroner's 2024 Annual Report may not be your typical summertime reading, but it does reveal an unflinching look at a reality humans instinctively try to avoid: death.

The 19-page report from Coroner Darnell Hartwell's office – released in May – provides a striking and, often, sobering insight into how people lost their lives in Berkeley County last year and, perhaps more importantly, data that might give the living pause.

"The goal of providing this information to the public is to increase public awareness of the role of the coroner's office," Hartwell said in the report, "and to focus attention on the causes and manners of death in our county in an effort to reduce the number of preventable deaths to the extent possible."

BY THE NUMBERS

The mission of the coroner's office is to determine the cause and manner of a person's death upon notification, whether it be unexpected, unexplained, suspicious, violent, or unknown. The report also states that the coroner's office does its investigations independently of other law enforcement agencies that may also be investigating the same case.

In 2024, 1,944 deaths were recorded in Berkeley County, and of those deaths, the coroner's office investigated:

- 1,200 were natural
- 133 accidental
- 38 by suicide
- 20 by homicide
- 7 undetermined

Digging deeper, a striking commonality linked the majority of the 2024 homicides.

The report stated, of the "20 deaths classified as homicide in Berkeley County, 19 were attributed to gun violence, and one was blunt force trauma. This is an 11% increase from 2023."

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

Reducing the number of accidental deaths has been a priority for the Berkeley County Coroner's Office.

In the report, it states the office "cares deeply for the community it serves," adding, "It is the coroner's desire to support the community through outreach, prevention, and education."

It listed 133 deaths as accidental in 2024.

The office said almost 30 percent, or 38 deaths, were the result of motor vehicle accidents.

But car accidents were not the leading cause of accidental deaths in Berkeley County.

Unsurprisingly, almost 40% of the accidental deaths, the coroner's office said, were drug-related, killing 54 people.

Those drug-related numbers are one reason why the county created the Berkeley County Overdose Review Board.

The mission of the board, which is made up of members from the coroner's office, law enforcement, EMS, health care industries, and community leaders, is to reduce overdose deaths by raising public awareness and by reviewing overdose fatalities to see where an opportunity for intervention might have been missed.

One approach to reduce drug overdoses is the recent installation of Naloxboxes across Berkeley County.

The boxes, installed in public and widely traveled areas, contain naloxone nasal spray, which can be used as a life-saving medication to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

Funding for the program comes from a $26 billion national opioid settlement, from which the county just received its 2025 installment of $707,968 earlier in June.

The county plans to distribute the funds to eligible organizations and nonprofits that "work directly on the front lines of the opioid epidemic and/or assist in opioid addiction recovery or preventive services."

SAVING LIVES

Despite the dark nature of the job, the coroner's office puts a priority on strategies to save lives – either by education, reducing preventable deaths, or recovering organs for patients awaiting a transplant.

When an eligible donor is identified, the office notifies Sharing Hope SC of an opportunity that might lead to an organ donation for transplant candidates.

In 2024, the report said 12 bodies were released for organ donation.

Of those released, seven became actual donation cases with 28 organs recovered, which resulted in 36 lives saved.

Similarly, 190 tissues were recovered and donated from the deceased donors, which resulted in the enhancement of 825 lives.

Field of Honor celebrates local heroes



SUZANNE DETAR

The Exchange Club of Daniel Island's Field of Honor is on display on River Landing Drive, featuring 1,000 United States flags dedicated to heroes of the community, including veterans, active-duty military, first responders, teachers, and many other local heroes. The flags will be on display until July 6.

COW-ABUNGA!



PROVIDED BY THE OAKS

Mrs. Becotte, a 100-year-old resident at the Oaks of Daniel Island, has her wish come true – to meet and pet a baby cow. The meeting was arranged by Crescent Hospice.

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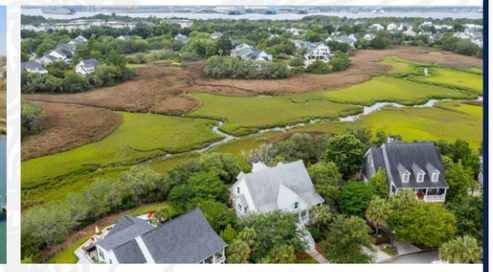
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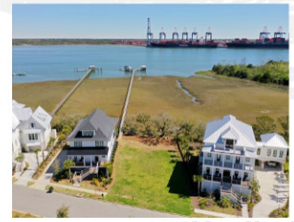


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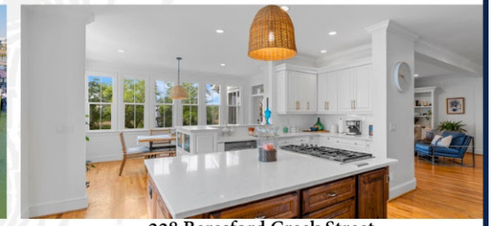








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Coco + Salt provides healing solutions for chronic health problems



meet the merchant

MARIE ROCHA-TYGH

Daniel Island residents can find solutions for a variety of chronic health problems at Coco + Salt.

Alicia Orr, a registered dietitian nutritionist and functional medicine practitioner, established Coco + Salt in Boston, Massachusetts, a decade ago to assist individuals in improving their health.

The name was inspired by Mother Nature's provision of natural remedies for healing.

Two and a half years ago, Orr and her family moved to Daniel Island. She brought her desire to help those suffering from chronic illness and set up shop.

Coco + Salt follows a whole-body approach by using patients' health history from early childhood to the present day, along with labs and functional testing to develop an individualized plan for healing.

While working in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital and in rehab and long-term care settings, Orr discovered functional medicine.

"The more I studied functional medicine, the better I was able to get to the root cause of my clients' concerns and help them heal," she said.

From newborns to clients in their 90s, Orr says she can help people feel better.



PROVIDED

Daniel Island resident and dietitian nutritionist Alicia Orr treats the whole body to discover the root cause of many chronic health problems at Coco + Salt.

"I work with my clients to get to the bottom, or the root cause of what is causing a client's symptoms or holding them back from feeling their best. In addition to blood labs, we use many different testing modalities that standard allopathic physicians do not."

Daniel Island resident Ine McKenzie says Coco + Salt's focus on functional medicine may benefit many residents.

"Alicia is a wonderful addition to the Daniel Island business community, especially for residents with immune and chronic illnesses," McKenzie said. "I have a lot of admiration for her knowledge."

Orr credits her mentor with helping her on her healing path. "My mentor, Dr. Sidney MacDonald Baker, taught me to find what the body has that it doesn't want, is toxic, or causing problems, and what the body is missing that it needs.

"After bringing the body back to homeostasis in this way, Mother Nature will often take care of the rest. Given the right conditions the body has the potential to take care of the rest of the healing."

Orr said her clients' recovery is the best part of her job.

"My favorite part is the follow up visit when the client tells me their symptoms are completely gone, labs are improved, and they are feeling so much better. We all deserve to feel our best and with the right practitioner and testing I believe this is possible for everyone."

A local resident, who asked to remain anonymous, experienced bloating, fatigue, and persistent digestion issues, but finally found relief at Coco + Salt.

"Alicia completely changed my health," the patient said. "She's incredibly knowledgeable, thorough, and compassionate. Through her detailed lab testing and personalized holistic protocols, I'm now entirely symptom-free!"

Orr said she provides a complimentary 15-minute introductory call for those who may want to learn more about functional and integrative medicine.

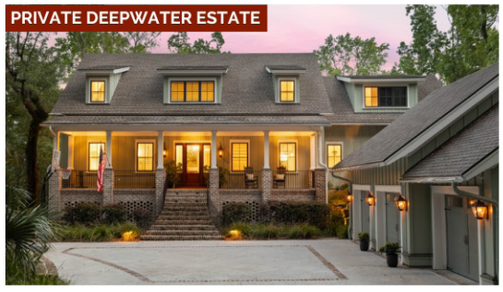
Orr can be reached at alicia@cocoandsaltrd.com or through the website cocoandsaltrd.com.







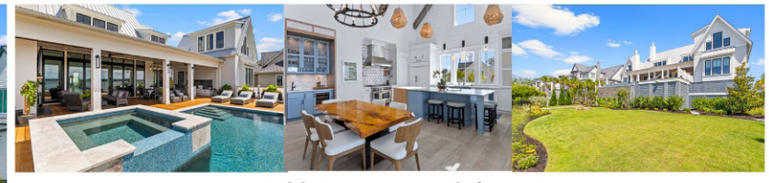
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How good are you at managing pain?



unconventional wisdom

STEVE FERBER

Pain psychologist Rachel Zoffness explains, "Your pain voice is your inner bully – that negative, catastrophic voice in your head telling you that you'll never get better, that the future is hopeless, that you can't go out with friends or walk in the park.

"Get familiar with her," Zoffness continues, "her demands, what she predicts, how she hurts you and holds you down.

"Name her, describe her, and notice that she's not you – she's just a manipulative, bossy voice in your head that wants to be in charge. Then talk back."

Your pain voice and pain beliefs (we'll address that in a moment) all impact how we experience pain. And while we're all familiar with pain, we may not fully recognize that it's biopsychosocial, meaning a combination of biological, psychological, and social factors.

PATTERNS OF PAIN

The National Institutes of Health defines three primary patterns of pain: acute, episodic, and chronic.

Two quick definitions, from an NIH report led by Dr. Jill Fenske of the University of Michigan, state, "Acute pain is associated with tissue damage and inflammation, with pain resolving as tissue heals" while "chronic pain is a different medical condition involving abnormal peripheral or central neural function."

The number of people suffering from chronic pain is staggering. The Mayo Clinic reports that more than 100 million Americans live with chronic, persistent pain. And the NIH report shares this notable shift: "Increasingly, chronic pain is recognized as a disease entity in and of itself, rather than as a symptom of another disease."

WHAT ARE YOUR PAIN BELIEFS?

It's no surprise that what you think about pain impacts how you experience it, and it's no surprise that, where education, acceptance, and mindfulness can alleviate it, catastrophizing and fear can deepen it.

Here again from the NIH report: "Catastrophizing, where beliefs about the pain experience overwhelm the capacity to function, correlates with negative affect, but also has a unique impact on outcomes, and confers a degree of treatment-resistance.

"Fear of pain is closely connected, and leads to a cycle of hypervigilance and avoidance of activity that contributes to negative affect, physical deconditioning, and disability."

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

Pain remedies are far-ranging, from surgery to medication to biofeedback, cognitive behavioral therapy, and spirituality.

Beyond the two standards for alleviating pain — breathing techniques and good sleep hygiene – here are a few recommendations that parties seem to agree upon:

1. Pacing

"Use moderation and pacing," the Mayo Clinic reports. "Set realistic goals and start by doing one-third of what you think you can do. For more difficult tasks, try setting a timer to remind yourself to take a break."

Notes Zoffness: "Pacing is a tried-and-true technique for slowly desensitizing the brain and body, and gradually resuming your life."

2. Stay Connected

From the UK's National Health Service: "Keeping in touch with friends and family is good for your health. Try shorter visits, maybe more often, and if you cannot get out to visit people, phone a friend, invite a family member round for tea or have a chat with your neighbor.

"Aim to talk about anything other than your pain, even if other people want to talk about it."

3. Look to Your Past

Harvard Health quotes Ellen Slawsby, director of pain services at the Harvard-affiliated Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine: "We've all had moments of mindfulness before, so think back to those times and try to replicate them. 'What did you do that helped you feel calm and in control?'" says Slawsby. "It could be a hobby or a household chore or some other form of repetitive absorbing stimuli."

4. Seek Joy

"Plan to do at least one activity every day that gives you joy," insists Zoffness. "Pleasurable activities increase important pain-related brain chemicals," such as serotonin, dopamine, and endorphins, which Zoffness explains are "your body's natural painkillers."

PAIN IS PERSONAL

Above all, it's worth remembering that your pain is unique.

"There's no diagnostic test that can show your pain level," explains the Mayo Clinic. "It's a subjective, individual experience."

NIH is in sync here: "No two people feel pain the same way, even if the reasons for their pain are alike. Pain is a highly personal experience, and a person's report of their own pain is the best measure."

Wishing you much relief in the days ahead.

We've moved!

DI News' new location is above DI Animal Hospital
291 Seven Farms Drive, second floor (elevator entrance in rear)

the current

Keep up with the most important local news via The Daniel Island News' e-newsletter, The Current. Find these articles and more online at thedanielislandnews.com.

- Meeting on Nowell Creek tree removal
- Downtown youth curfew is now law
- Animal center halts intakes, overcrowded
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July 17, 2025



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1. Open to all ages.
2. Multiple entries are permitted.
3. The Daniel Island Publishing Corp., LLC/DBA. The Daniel Island News reserves the right to publish submitted photos in the Big Pet Edition and in future editions, as well as on social media.
4. If people are in the photos, a waiver must accompany the submission. Contact our office for a waiver form.
5. Due Date: Must be received in our office by 4 pm on Thursday, July 10, 2025.
6. E-mail entries to: sdetar@thedanielislandnews.com or mail to or drop off at The Daniel Island News, 225 Seven Farms Dr., Suite 108, Daniel Island, SC 29492.
7. Digital photos must be 300 dpi, 5”x7” in size or better quality.

Send your photo & short description to Sue at sdetar@thedanielislandnews.com by July 10, 2025

KIDS SAY

For the Fourth of July, I will _____.

Compiled by Rose Monahan
Daniel Island School student



I will celebrate my birthday because it is a few days before the Fourth of July!
Paige, age 6
Charleston



I will do fireworks!
Connell, age 5
Charleston



I will launch fireworks.
Olive, age 5
Charleston



I will watch the fireworks. We can see the ones that they launch from the beach from our backyard!
Vincent, age 11
Port Royal



I will head to the pool and golf.
Charlie, age 14
Charleston



I will go golfing.
Brady, age 13
Charleston

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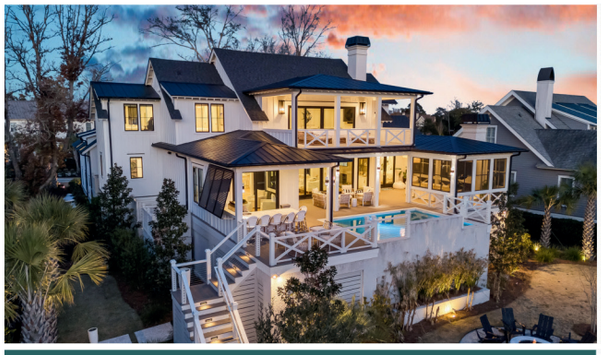
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Look Who's Here: 834 Foundation Street

The Gates shopping center in Point Hope boasts coffee, subs, tacos, yoga, and more

PATRICK VILLEGAS
patrick@thedanielislandnews.com

Almost overnight, it seems like a slew of new businesses popped up and opened in The Gates, a new shopping center in the Point Hope community located at 834 Foundation St. – just a block away from the well-traveled roundabout off Clements Ferry Road.

The still-growing commerce center, across the street from the Publix grocery store, is now home to a variety of shops, including grab-and-go eateries, a sit-down bar and restaurant, a nail salon, a yoga studio, and even a cigar shop.

Catrina's Tacos and Tequila welcomed its first customers last December to a striking, colorful dining room and an elegant bar that the owners hope complements the fusion twist they've incorporated into their entrees.

"The concept of this restaurant is not your traditional Mexican restaurant," said manager Eduardo Vasquez. "That's why we didn't put 'Mexican restaurant' in the name."

Vasquez said offerings like sushi and food bowls have given customers a chance to experience something a little bit different from the norm.

"It's been great," he said. "We have had people from Daniel Island come all the way out here to check us out, people from Mount Pleasant, as well as people from (Point Hope), too."



PROVIDED

The Gates, a shopping center at 834 Foundation Street in Point Hope, is still growing.

While the new **Domino's Pizza** doesn't shy away from touting its familiar name and national menu, owner Kevin Kerchenko said his pizzeria does strive to be something different. While delivering fast pizza is his team's constant goal, he said building a bond with Point Hope neighborhoods is intrinsically more important.

"The community feel is just special here," Kerchenko said. "We have already built a great interaction with Philip Simmons. They call me directly, and I'm involved with the PTAs. Anytime there are school events, we go out there and donate pizzas."

Kerchenko, who also owns the Domino's franchise on Daniel Island, recently purchased a home in Point Hope.

"Me living in this area, it's all about being involved. I follow the community closely, and I just believe it's going to be an amazing place. I think five to 10 years from now this will be the place to be."

Nancy Nguyen has already embedded herself within the community for years. Nguyen owned the **Orchid Nail Salon** on Daniel Island and recently moved it to her new location in The Gates.

The shiny new salon sports 25 comfortable mani- and pedi-chairs for its clients in a wide-open space that is as big as it comes – 3,000 square feet.



PATRICK VILLEGAS

Owner Nancy Nguyen says Orchid Nail Salon has relocated to The Gates in Point Hope.

"When they come in here, we take care of them," she said. "They come here, relax, and enjoy."

Nguyen, who has been in the nail business for two decades, said her Point Hope salon will continue to offer upscale, organic, and luxury products and said she is thankful and pleased to serve both her new customers and longtime regulars. "A lot of people on Daniel Island know me," she laughed.

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PROVIDED

Modern Movement Yoga offers yoga, Pilates, and strength training from its Point Hope location.

Business thrives at The Gates Point Hope

From **THE GATES** *on* **PAGE 10**

Step into the spacious studio at **Modern Movement Yoga**, and you might feel the warmth of infrared-heating panels radiating from the ceiling to its yoga students down below.

Owner Jolene Newman said her boutique studio offers not only yoga but Pilates and strength training. With 46 classes already scheduled across seven days a week, Newman is excited to welcome her students to a top-of-the-line studio that includes amenities like a fully outfitted bathroom and shower for those on the go.

"I love that our studio brings together people from all walks of life," Newman said. "Watching someone step into their power and happiness, both on and off the mat, is the most rewarding part of doing business here. It makes my heart so happy to celebrate the success of my students."

Meeting friends after work with a relaxing cigar, a nice, cold beer, or a glass of wine might entice them to check out **King's Leaf Cigar Lounge.** The Point Hope location is one of five in the Charleston area, and owner Brian Lucier said this particular locale is a "sophisticated place to connect and unwind that's not too far from home."

Lucier said the lounge, which is open seven days a week with late-night hours on Fridays and Saturdays, promises customers "the very best the cigar world has to offer" with walk-in humidors, premium cigars, and "an intentionally designed lounge space for all to enjoy a taste of luxury. We're proud to be able to cultivate an environment where our customers get to know their neighbors over cigars and conversation – many meeting with each other multiple times a week."

Firehouse Subs provides a variety of hot subs with premium meats and cheeses piled on toasted rolls. This new location is one of more than 15 fast-casual restaurants owned and operated by the Paquin family, who said they are proud to live and serve here locally.

"Charleston's strong sense of community and support for local businesses makes it a special place to serve," said Kayla Paquin.

Paquin said the Firehouse brand was founded by firefighters, and every purchase at the store helps fund life saving equipment for first responders through its public safety foundation.

"We're proud to connect with customers... who value great food and giving back; we're honored to contribute to the safety and well-being of this vibrant, historic city," she said.

Dunkin' is a favorite stop for fans of breakfast, coffee, and sweet treats. The 1,900-square-foot space, operated by Coastal Franchising, also includes a drive-thru for car convenience, and when opened last December, offered free coffee for a year for the first 100 customers in line.

"Dunkin' is more than coffee, as we're part of the communities we serve," said marketing director Brandy Zimmerle. "As the local Dunkin' franchise owner, Coastal Franchising continues to grow in the Charleston area, and we're committed to creating local jobs, supporting neighborhood initiatives, and delivering the fast, friendly service our guests love. We're here to keep Charleston running, one cup at a time."

Many businesses within The Gates were built by **Ferrara Buist Contractors.** The design-assist-build construction company also set up shop in the complex and worked hand-in-hand with many of the center's owners to outfit their restaurants and shops.

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Terry Haas | Tim Haas | Kristin Abbate | Mary Patterson | Nikki Cifelli | Kristen Whitehead | Jennifer Horne

June 26 - July 2, 2025 ■ The Daniel Island News

Daniel Island

Independence Day Celebration

Thursday, July 3 | 4-9 p.m. | Smythe Park



SOAP BUBBLE CIRCUS INCLUDING THE BUBBLE TRIKE



PRESENTED BY:

DANIEL ISLAND COMMUNITY FUND EST. 2000

GOLF CART PARADE STARTS AT BISHOP ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



East Coast Party Band

FOOD VENDORS

Wrap and Bowl Factory, City Sliders, Gaucho Grill Food Truck, Birdies Famous Hot Dogs and Sausages, Two Rhodes Bakery, Sweet, But Not So Sweet, Shaka Shrimp, Holy City Italian Ice, Holy City Popcorn, Pure Fluff Cotton Candy, Citrus Crush, And Lobster, Summerville Burrito, Kona Ice, Waffle Sensations, Burgers & Freys

ROVING ENTERTAINMENT

SureFire Entertainment

- Stilt Walking
- Unicycle Act
- Juggling
- Soap Bubble Circus including the Bubble Trike
- Yonts the Magician
- Daniel Island Treasure Hunt
- Great American Kazoo Cart - Roving Kazoo Show

Shag Dance Competition!
in front of the stage

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

3:15 - 3:45 pm	Golf Cart Parade line-up begins at Bishop England High School
4:00 pm sharp	Parade proceeds to Daniel Island Drive and continues to Daniel Island School parking lot at DI Drive and Purcell Street
4 - 5 pm	Smythe Park – Emcee/DJ Shane Griffin playing patriotic music
5:15 pm (est.)	National Anthem by Zandrina Dunning at Smythe Park following the parade
5:15-6:30 (est.)	Wildflower Station Band
6:30 - 7 pm	Emcee/DJ Shane Griffin playing patriotic music
7 - 9 pm	East Coast Party Band

PATRIOTIC PARADE

The parade starts at Bishop England High School parking lot (by sports fields) and finishes at Daniel Island Drive & Purcell Street. Everyone is invited to participate in the parade. Participants need to arrive for the line-up between 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. The parade will start at 4:00 p.m. sharp.

PARADE TRAFFIC ALERT

There will be intermittent street closures on July 3rd for the Daniel Island Annual Patriotic Parade from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. (approximate time). The City of Charleston Police Department will coordinate and execute the street closure process. This is a rolling closure, meaning as soon as the parade passes, the police will reopen the streets. We appreciate your patience during this time in order for us to have a safe passage for our parade participants/residents during this annual event.

For more information go to dicommunity.org

Thank You

to everyone who helped make the 2025 Charleston Duck Race a HUGE SUCCESS with over $183,000 raised for local charities!

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- Carolina Elite Real Estate: Michael Moseley
- New York Butcher Shop: Daniel Island
- Sparacino Periodontics
- Random Acts of Kindness Lowcountry
- Smiling Oak Dentistry
- Orlando's Pizza
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- Jerry Bacon Speaking
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www.DanielIslandRotary.com

www.CharlestonDuckRace.com

Iron Horse athletics shine in '24-25 with 4 state titles, high GPA

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Ask Dan Minkin what it was like to walk past the athletics trophy case when he was named the athletic director at Philip Simmons High School in time for the 2019-20 academic year, and his answer might surprise you.

"This is actually a funny question," said Minkin, who took over as AD in the school's third year of existence.

"We didn't have a trophy case when I was first hired. Our Gameday Booster Club bought one a couple of years ago, and as soon as we put the trophies in, it was too small. We have to rotate out the latest region and state championship trophies every year.

"It's a good way to measure success, but for us, it's more of what we do off the field as well," Minkin added. "We ended the year with the highest GPAs we had in school history, thanks to our mandatory study hall program."

The Iron Horses completed a banner year that included four state championships (girls' and boys' cross country, boys' golf, and girls' track and field), while claiming state runners-up in boys' track and field and baseball.

Throw in 10 Region 6-AA championships the Iron Horses earned, and they are in the running for the Carlisle Cup, a yearly award given to the top five schools by classification in overall athletics. This would be the Iron Horses' bid for their third Carlisle Cup. Philip Simmons is the only traditional public school to ever win the AA cup and the only Berkeley County school to ever win it, regardless of classification.

Those achievements are at the successful end of the spectrum compared to Minkin's first year on campus, which was the 2019-20 academic year. That, of course, was when COVID-19 arrived, shutting down many sports and activities.

"When you take a new job, you always sit back and see how things go," Minkin said. "You want to see how things work. But things shut down. I was told spring would be my busiest season since there was a game every night. But the first spring, 2020, I worked one baseball game, and that was it."

Minkin says the common denominator in achieving success is the student-athletes' commitment and the coaches' leadership.

"That common denominator is the athletes' buy-in," Minkin said. "That comes from the coaches, who we have the best in the state, modeling the behavior both on and off the field. This causes the athletes to buy in, and at that point, the winning begins. The athletes want to know the coaches care before they care about what they know."

The school's enrollment in 2024 was about 820 students, with 75 percent of students playing at least one sport, while 60 percent play at least two or more sports. The Iron Horses produced more than 60 all-region performers, with 15 earning scholarships, and the just-completed academic year marked academic achievements as well, with a record GPA.

Minkin said the next area of athletic growth will be continuing to offer the best athletic programs in the area and putting more students in the best position to grow as individuals by offering every South Carolina High School League-sanctioned sport.



PROVIDED BY PHILIP SIMMONS HIGH SCHOOL

Iron Horse Athletic Director Dan Minkins said the school's sports programs had a successful 2024-25 season.

"We will continue to monitor the SCHSL-sponsored sports and will continue to add as the league adds," Minkin said.

Keira Tyler named lacrosse defender of the year by state coaches

BE, PSHS athletes earn all-state honors

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Bishop England High School was well-represented on the South Carolina High School Lacrosse Coaches Association's All-State teams with 14 overall selections, while Philip Simmons High School landed two all-state picks.

The BE girls – who posted a 21-5 record, won the Region 6 championship, and reached the Class AAAA Final Four – landed eight players on the all-state team.

Keira Tyler was a first-team selection and named the defender of the year. It marked the second straight year she earned the honor.

"Keira ran the defense. She was my backer, my most important player on defense," said Jeff Weiner, who coached the Bishops and retired after the 2025 season. "She's very fast and very athletic. She's a Division I player."

Tyler received a merit and athletic scholarship and will play for the University of Rhode Island, which just completed its first season as an NCAA Division I program. The Rams posted an 8-8 record, including 4-6 in the Atlantic 10 conference, just missing the league's postseason tournament by one victory.

Tyler was selected for the South Carolina national team in 2024, and she's noted for her footwork, strong body positioning, and making good contact.

She was a student ambassador at BE, a peer mentor, and an active member in multiple clubs while achieving a 4.3 GPA. Tyler is a native of Westchester County in New York, a major lacrosse hotbed, and lived close to where Weiner lived before he moved to the Lowcountry.

Joining Tyler on the first team were teammates Whitney Jellison (attack), Bridget Mullery (defender), Hannah Rosato (midfield), Natalie Noone (midfield), and Piper Hamrick (goalkeeper).

Second-team selections included BE's Taylor Ayers (attack) and Catherine Ugan (midfield). All eight of Bishop England's all-state selections were also members of the Lower State team.

Meanwhile, two Bishop England girls,



PROVIDED BY BISHOP ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop England lacrosse player Keira Tyler earned all-state honors from the South Carolina High School Lacrosse Coaches Association, including defender of the year.

Whitney Jellison and Grace Seymour, were selected for the South Carolina National Team that competed in the USA Lacrosse 2025 National Tournament, hosted by UMASS-Amherst. The tourney featured the top returning high school talent for 2026.

The Philip Simmons girls' lacrosse team also saw several players honored for their performances this season.

Hannah Patterson (defender) and Laney Bredemann (midfield) earned second-team all-state honors, while Jolie Mello earned honorable mention all-state.

Patterson, Bredemann, Patterson, and Mello were joined by teammates Olivia Terry (defender) and Savannah Gasperson (goalkeeper) on the Lower State team.

The Iron Horse girls posted a 12-7 record.

The Bishop England boys landed six players on the all-state team. The Bishops' first team picks included Jack Lavelle (defender), Ean Kitchin (midfield), Weston Moldenhauer (long stick midfield), and Oliver Mason (defensive midfield).

Tommy King (attack) and Roman Paluso (face-off) were the second-team selections.

The six players also earned Lower State honors. They were joined on the Lower State team by BE's Oliver Mason and Philip Simmons' Robby Ryan (attack), Marin Lebrie (midfield), and Eathan Chisom (face off).

The Bishop boys went 9-9 on the season and reached the third round of the playoffs.

The Iron Horse boys were 7-6 and reached the second round of the playoffs.

Sharks not shy, show up in nearby waters



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Sharks are an unappreciated sportfishing species. They fight hard and are readily available. Sometimes too available.

Case in point: a couple of weeks ago, my nephew Conrad visited Charleston for a few days. Of course, fishing was at the top of our agenda. Sea conditions were pretty calm. So, Conrad, Elliott, Brody, and I jumped onto the Yellowfin and headed offshore.

Our plan was to troll for billfish and "accidentally" catch mahi, tuna, and wahoo. We had a couple of shots at marlin but were unable to convert. Thankfully, the mahi and tuna were cooperative.

On the ride back home, I stopped at a ledge in 170 feet of water. With red snapper season fast approaching, I wanted to check a few ledges for quality fish. Conrad and Elliott dropped slow-pitch jigs to the bottom. Elliott hooked a large red snapper. Conrad hooked a large amberjack.

Action was nonstop until the sharks showed up. Then it became nearly impossible to land any fish that we hooked. The sharks would eat them on the way up to the boat.

I moved the boat to another ledge in 155 feet of water. Conrad dropped his jig and hooked up before it hit the bottom. A shark ate the jig on the way down. I was disappointed.

However, Conrad seemed to enjoy the fight. He laughed and said this was the best fight of the day. When the shark surfaced next to the boat, Elliott and I laughed because the shark was only about 5 feet long.

Years ago, I used to handle smaller sharks. After a few close calls, I switched to a 3-foot-long dehooking tool. Now, I don't put my hands anywhere near the business end of a shark. It's safer for me and better for the shark.

These days, sharks are seemingly everywhere: in the harbor, behind shrimp boats, over nearshore reefs, and offshore ledges. During the summer months, if there is such a thing as a "sure thing," sharks are it. Fast action and a tough fight are pretty much guaranteed.



GREG PERALTA

Capt. Greg Peralta's nephew, Conrad, reels in a shark that put up a whale of a fight.

DANIEL ISLAND BARBER SHOP
BARBER SPOTLIGHT
TIARA CORREA FRIAS



Where are you from, originally?
I am originally from Abilene, Texas. I'm a military brat, so I lived all over the United States.

How long have you been in the business?
I have been in this business for five years now.

What do you love most about this profession?
What I love most about this profession is the art of it seeing my clients' reactions.

If you could choose any other career—what do you think you would do?
If I could choose any other career, I would probably be a preschool teacher.

What is your favorite time of the year?
My favorite time of the year is Halloween. I love dressing up!

If you were stranded on an island what one thing would you take with you?
If I were stranded on an island, I would take a machete.

What is your favorite food?
My favorite food is Chinese!!

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Cute ghost crabs can delight children of all ages



daniel island nature notes

FRANK CONWAY

My wife Jenny's idea of "therapy" for almost anything, or even for nothing, is sand, water, and sunsets.

Since our first evening walk on the beach at the Isle of Palms in 1987, my wife can combine an oceanside trek with almost anything – a movie, some astronomical event, appetizers at the front beach, dinner in Mount Pleasant – there are no limits.

Like most natural settings, the beach looks much different at night than it does when crowded with locals and tourists on a summer afternoon. There is a peacefulness to it, a quiet calm, and, of course, ghost crabs.

Ocypode quadrata is a subfamily of semi-terrestrial crabs closely related to fiddler crabs, another common creature here in the Lowcountry.

Since there have been beaches and people, the ghost crab has been fascinating them, their pets, and especially their children.

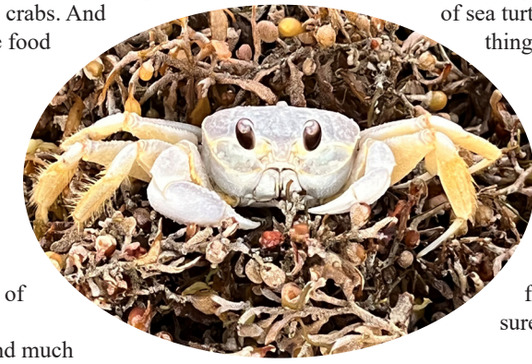
There is just something about these creatures scuttling quickly over the evening sand, only to pop unexpectedly into some perfectly sized hole that demands pursuit!

They can disappear into mounds of seaweed or scoot very quickly away to escape trouble, too, if there isn't a burrow close by. These crabs are sometimes referred to as sand crabs. But "sand crabs," or "sand fleas," are actually a smaller, separate species named mole crabs. And these are a staple food for ghost crabs.

The combination of their nocturnal nature and their pale coloration seems to have earned these critters the name of ghost crab.

They will spend much of the day deep in burrows beneath the sand. Average adults are about two inches across, and while entry holes tend to be little more than crab-sized, these burrows can be quite expansive and up to four feet deep. According to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, ghost crabs spend much of the winter in their burrows, and they will even close the door, or seal the opening, if it gets too cold.

On summer evenings, the crabs can be seen emerging to seek out their favorite foods, which are small clams, mole crabs, insects, and the eggs and hatchlings of sea turtles, among other things.



PROVIDED BY FRANK CONWAY

Ghost crabs can often be seen scuttling across and into the sand during beach evenings as they search for their favorite food.

Loud squeals and giggles coming from flashlight-wielding, running children or frustrated barks and frantic digging by someone's family pet almost surely indicate a ghost crab is on the prowl.

While they do have gills, ghost crabs are primarily land animals. They actually cannot survive long underwater. Through an interesting adaptation, hairs on their legs wick up water from wet sand to supply their gills and allow them to breathe.

They can also change color to match their surroundings, which is handy if they need to be out in the daytime.

While these crabs can't live in the ocean, their eggs can. After a male crab has proved himself dominant over his competitors and fertilized the eggs of a female, she will lay them at the ocean's edge, where they will drift for roughly six weeks before young crabs appear and take to the beaches.

A final interesting feature is the ghost crab's eyes, which are mounted atop long stalks and can rotate to offer a nearly 360-degree view. This is helpful in finding prey at night.

So, chase them if you must!

And let them go if you happen to catch any.

The children's laughter is soothing to the soul, and even more soothing is the quiet left behind once the little ones are tucked in bed, and the beach again belongs to the moon, the waves, a few strolling couples, and the ghost crabs.





2025 IMPORTANT SWIM TEAM DATES

MAY 9 & 10	No Practice (Happy Mothers' Day!)
MAY 12	Practice begins for 5 and 6 year olds
MAY 20	Ice Cream Social after practice
MAY 22	Time Trials, Team Picture and Dinner 4:00 - 7:30pm
MAY 26	No Practice (Memorial Day)
MAY 29	Home Meet - DI vs Shadowmoss at Pierce Pool 6:30pm
JUNE 3	Home Meet - DI vs Snee Farm at Pierce Pool 6:30pm
JUNE 10	Home Meet - DI vs Northbridge Terrace at Pierce Pool 6:30pm
JUNE 12	Away Meet - DI at Hobcaw Yacht Club 6:30pm
JUNE 17	Away Meet - DI at Parkshore 6:30pm
JUNE 19	DI Intersquad Meet - Pierce Pool
JUNE 24	Away Meet - DI at Newington 6:30pm
JUNE 27	Last Entire Team Practice
JUNE 28	6 & under Mega Meet at Daniel Island 8-12pm
JUNE 30 - JULY 5	City Meet Practice
JULY 4	No practice
JULY 6	City Meet
JULY 9	Team Banquet

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The staycation solution?

Locals say backyard pools are the ultimate summer upgrade



KAREN SALDAÑA

Karen Saldaña designed her backyard swimming pool. She said it's the go-to hangout for her kids and the neighborhood.

EMMA SLAVEN
emma@thedanielislandnews.com

Why pack up the towels, the sunscreen, and floaties when the perfect summer escape can be steps away?

For some locals, the answer to beating the heat – and avoiding the chaos of public pools – is simple: build your own personal pool paradise.

Whether it's for cooling off, working out, or unwinding at dusk, backyard pools have become a crown jewel of summer living, especially in the heat of a Lowcountry summer.

"I designed it myself," said resident Karen Saldaña. "I work from home and wanted the convenience of being able to work and watch my kids in the pool."

For Saldaña, her backyard has become more than just a splash zone; it's a multi-purpose retreat. "I frequently work from the back porch while the kids are swimming. It's for the kids, me, and, of course, entertaining friends."

Saldaña's pool gets used for everything from lap swimming to late-night dips and birthday parties.

Her favorite feature?

"The tanning shelf. I throw a chair in there and read a book under the umbrella."

She added, "I could never take a meeting at the public pool. My backyard is my own personal paradise."

As for Daniel Island resident Marge Lawson, adding a pool was about reclaiming wasted space.

"We have a west-facing backyard, and all we did was mow grass and trim shrubs," Lawson said. "It was so hot out in the back, and we never used it. We decided to put in a pool and utilize the space and have an outdoor oasis."

Now for Lawson, the space is both functional and beautiful.

"We have lights, two waterfalls, it's heated, and we have a deep-end ledge," she said. "It's very convenient to just walk out and jump in and relax or exercise and swim."

On summer nights, the backyard is her favorite place to be.

"I love looking out at the pool in the evening as the sun sets and the lights come on. It definitely feels like a relaxing staycation."

Katie Ross, a mother of three, said her pool is the "best investment we've ever made." She and her husband added it to their Daniel Island home last spring to keep their kids active and off screens.

"They're outside every day, swimming, doing cannonballs, even making up pool games with the neighbors," she said.

Ross said the biggest perk is the family time. "We eat dinner outside, go for night swims, and even have friends and family over for pool nights. It makes summer feel like a vacation without ever having to leave home."

With a summer full of heat and hustle approaching, these residents agree that, for them, a backyard pool is the ultimate cool-down.

yards of the month

JUNE 2025

Presented by The Daniel Island Garden Club

The Daniel Island Garden Club celebrates those garden gurus whose green thumbs manicure their lawns to the next level.

Monthly judging for Yards of the Month continues through September, with special awards given for Halloween decor in October and holiday season fun in December. Don't forget, judging can take place any time during the month. Here are the winners for June.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE DANIEL ISLAND GARDEN CLUB



478 Island Park Drive - Martha and Jeff LeVeen



850 Dunham St. - Stephanie and Bernie Mackara



1996 Pierce St. - Meara and Shane Panaia



601 Wading Place - Lori Archer



517 Park Crossing St.
Anne and Michael Riley



1844 Beekman St.
Paula and John Raves



1403 Wando View St.
Melynda and Steve Britt

Another quiet week before city boards for local projects

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

June 26: No items impacting Daniel Island or Cainhoy/Clements Ferry road area.

RESULTS:
TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

June 12: Atlantic St. Thomas - Concept plan for future subdivision and development of an unspecified number of units on 7.3 acres at 2815 Clements Ferry Road. TMS: B2710002169. Owner: Middle Street Partners. Applicant: Sitecast, LLC. Zoning: Gathering Place. Contact: Jacob Cordray, jcordray@sitecast.com. *Results: Revise and return.*

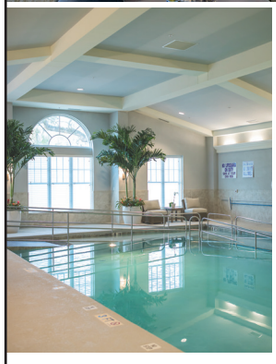
RESULTS: BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - ZONING

June 17: 226 Port Tack Drive, Wando Village - Variance from Sec. 4 of the Wando Village PUD to allow a raised pool with a 2'1" rear setback (15' required). Owner: Frank Messina. Applicant: Heritage Pools, LLC. *Results: Not available.*

Got a story idea?
Email sdetar@thedanielislandnews.com.







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UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 FIELD OF HONOR
The Exchange Club of Daniel Island will host a Field of Honor display on River Landing Dr., featuring 1,000 United States flags from June 14 to July 6. Flags are dedicated to heroes of the community, including veterans, active-duty military, first responders, teachers, and many other individual heroes. Flag dedications support Fisher House Charleston, One80 Place, and the Tri-County Veterans Support Network. To dedicate a flag, go to healingfield.org/product/daniel-island-sc-dedicate.

DANIEL ISLAND NIGHT AT THE RIVERDOGS
The Charleston RiverDogs host Daniel Island Night at The Joe on June 29, as the RiverDogs take on the Lynchburg Hillcats. Game time; 5:05 pm at Joe Riley Stadium, gates open at 4 pm. These tickets offer you an opportunity to sit in the special Daniel Island zone reserved just for DI residents! Purchase tickets at gofevo.com/event/Danielisland5 by June 27.

DANIEL ISLAND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
Thursday, July 3. Starts with a golf cart parade from Bishop England to Smythe Park. Cart line-up begins at 3:15 pm; proceeds at 4 pm sharp. Entertainment at Smythe Park from 4-9pm includes patriotic music, dance performance from Peace, Love, Hip Hop, and the East Coast Party Band. See pages 12-13.

DANIEL ISLAND TOASTMASTERS
Resume their meetings online in July and August. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit organization that offers a proven education program that helps improve communication and leadership skills. Shape your future among friends who are supportive of you becoming the speaker and leader you want to be. Meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday, noon to 1 pm. Email Claire@EduAve.com to receive your Zoom login.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Be Brave Vacation Bible School for 4K to rising sixth graders at Providence Church, 294 Seven Farms Drive, July 8-10, 9:30 am-noon. To register: allison@providencecharleston.org, or 843-971-5275, or online at providencecharleston.org/news/vbs-2025. Deadline is June 30.

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 or the DI News (8-6), 225 Seven Farms Dr., Suite 108.

LOWCOUNTRY STREET GROCERY
Fridays at Guggenheim Terrace, 11 am-4 pm.

SPRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR SERIES
Free live music Thursdays at Waterfront Park on Daniel Island, now through June 26, 5pm. Bring a chair or blanket and your picnic. Sponsored by the Daniel Island Community Fund.

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.

BONE HEALTH TRAINING CLASS
Tues. & Thurs. 4:30-5:30 pm. Strength and Balance for Bone Health class. All ages and levels. The class is $10 and is being held at the DI Rec Center. 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.

DI INSHORE FISHING CLUB Monthly, 3rd Tues. of month. Family friendly. Call/text Bill at 919-418-3220, danielislandfishingclub.com.

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 dyckman.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 Community Center, 514 Robert Daniel Dr., dixchangeclub.org.

MASTER GARDENER Q&A Certified Clemson MGs are available at the DI Library on the first Monday of each month, 4-6 pm, to answer gardening questions and provide information sheets. 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 will not meet in June or July. Resumes 1st Fri. of mo. Aug. 1, 8:30 am at Kingstide, 32 River Landing Drive. Summer Social at VIVA, Sun., June 22, 4-6 pm. 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: Mary Jo Romeo, maryjo.rotary@gmail.com.

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

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.

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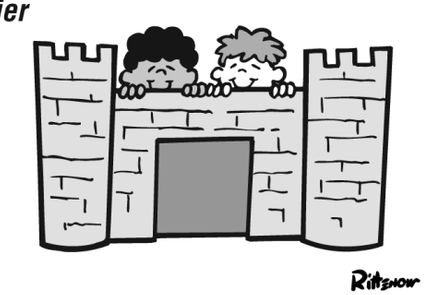
Let's Have Some FUN

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Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Picking Proper Prepositions

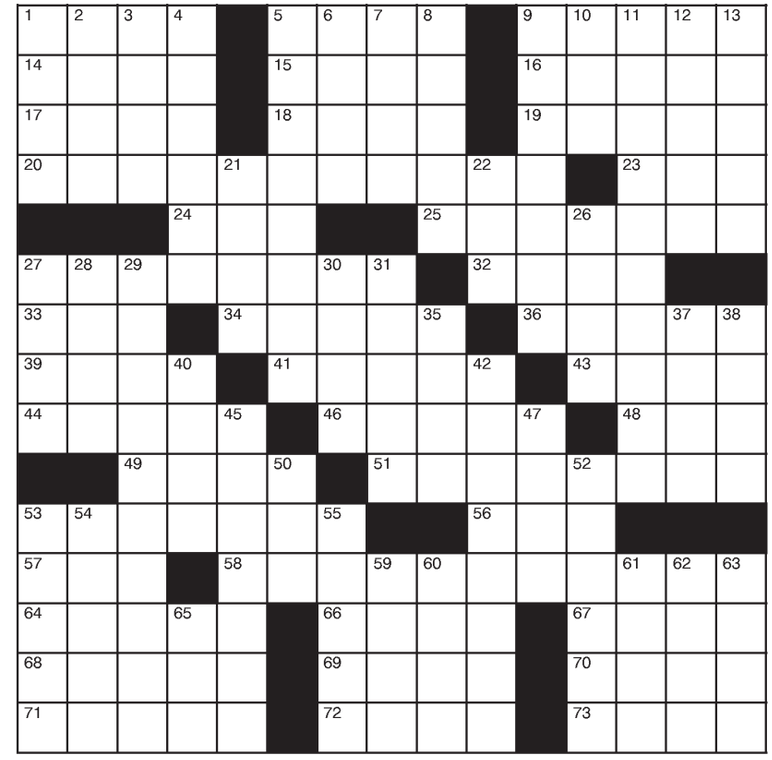


Choose the best prepositions for the sentences below.

1. I'll agree (with, to) this contract after you increase my salary.
2. Harold is furious (at, with) Patrick again.
3. The kids built a fort (in back of, behind) the garage.

Answers:
1. to
2. with
3. behind. Never use a compound preposition when you can use a simpler one.

HEY MRS.



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil R. Manausa

ACROSS

1 Clings to
5 Scottish miss
9 Office fill-ins
14 Chop-chop
15 Utah ski resort
16 First name in talk shows
17 Singer McEntire
18 Type of hammer
19 Fritter away
20 Simon and Garfunkel hit
23 Master of the macabre
24 Jamaican music
25 Prehistoric
27 Novelist Maugham
32 Gilbert, of "Roseanne"
33 Thornton Wilder's "___ Town"
34 Heavenly hold-up man?
36 Ice
39 Cold War letters
41 "South Pacific" role
43 Yuletide
44 Offer again
46 Hurl
48 Company VIP
49 To be, to Henri
51 Light rain
53 Position
56 Tijuana treasure
57 Jazz guitarist Montgomery
58 Virginia Woolf novel
64 Worship of Allah
66 Bridge fee
67 Agatha Christie title
68 The late Mr. Jobs
69 Fashion magazine
70 Simba
71 Nay ending
72 Eye sore
73 Part of BPOE

DOWN

1 Detriment
2 ___-friendly
3 Shoots the breeze
4 Few and far between
5 Dress down
6 Jai ___
7 Flabbergast
8 Cantina condiment
9 Lincoln model
10 Clean air agcy.
11 "Clue" subject
12 "___ the back."
13 Linen closet item
21 Soup pod
22 Come-___: inducements
26 Fairway selection
27 Taste sensation
28 River in England
29 Buffy Davis's doll
30 Desire trees
31 Coin toss call
35 Faux pas
37 Ship's feature
38 Gin flavor
40 "Norma Rae" director
42 Registrant
45 Ringo, e.g.
47 Tomorrow's woman
50 Flub
52 Bit of pasta
53 Cheese favorite
54 Seed coat
55 ___ Park, Colorado
59 Lunkhead
60 "___ McBeal"
61 Sound of sorrow
62 Out of control
63 Longings
65 "___ Maria"

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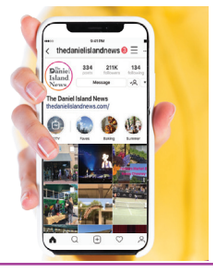
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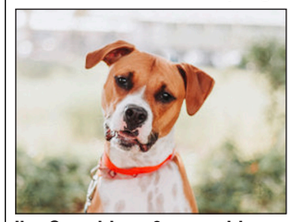
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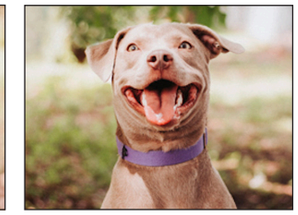
All of the animals featured on this page are located at 2455 Remount Rd., North Charleston and are available for adoption. For more information, call 843-747-4849 or visit charlestonanimalsociety.org or jaspca.com or email: info@charlestonanimalsociety.org.



I'm Crumble, a 3-year-old medium female terrier mix.



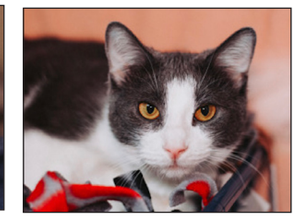
I'm Hotchner, a 1-year-old medium male terrier mix.



I'm Sophie, a 1-year-old female Weimaraner mix.



I'm Flint, a 4-month-old small male domestic shorthair mix.



I'm Faye, a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair mix.



I'm Anders, a 1-year-old female domestic shorthair mix.

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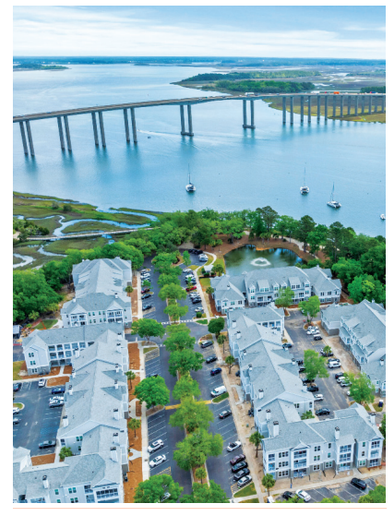
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