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A DECEMBER  
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# DI friends, mothers organize Toys for Tots drive on Dec. 7

**MARIE ROCHA-TYGH**

marie@thedanielislandnews.com

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be collecting toys on Dec. 7 at 4 p.m., at the New Realm Brewing Company.

It's a chance to make a difference in a Charleston child's life, who could wake up without a single gift under the tree, by bringing an unwrapped toy and spreading some joy this holiday during the Toys for Tots extravaganza.

Daniel Island friends Hart Peary and Christina Coscia partnered with Bumble Bee Blinds of the Lowcountry and New Realm to fill a truck with toys for the over 3,000 children in need. Peary was confident that the two businesses were the perfect combo to create a successful event.

"New Realm has always opened its doors for fundraisers that support children and families across South Carolina, and Bumble Bee Blinds of the Lowcountry has proudly hosted successful Toys for Tots drives."

Home Simplified, Coscia's Daniel Island-based home organization company, is focused on giving back to the community and is active in the upcoming event.

"I'm passionate about donating my time and resources to nonprofits throughout South Carolina," Coscia said.

For the co-chairs, Toys for Tots has special meaning. Charities that help children are a top priority as they are both mothers who have experienced grief and loss.

"Our friendship began when our sons became friends in kindergarten, and through that connection, we found comfort and understanding in each other's experiences," Peary said. "Together, we want to teach our children the true gift of giving to help them recognize how fortunate they are to be here, and how powerful it is to use that privilege to make a difference."

Peary lost her 9-year-old son, Charlie, four years ago. Since then, her mission has been to bring happiness to children facing grief and trauma.

"Since losing my son, Charlie, I've made it my mission to give back to the many nonprofit organizations that brought our

family so much support and joy," Peary said.

"We only had eight Christmas mornings with Charlie; it was his favorite holiday. I'll forever be grateful that we were able to put presents under our tree and see his smile on those mornings."

Peary appreciates being part of the Daniel Island community, which she recognizes for its kindness and generosity.

"Life can be complicated and unpredictable, but what grounds us is the ability to give back. By sharing our experiences and supporting our community, we hope to show our children and our neighbors that compassion and generosity can create real change."

She added that every act of giving, no matter how small, can make an impact. "Doing this in honor of Charlie's memory brings true heart to our cause and reminds us of the most beautiful gift of all – the gift of hope and connection we share with our community to make a difference for a child."

Coscia hopes everyone will help spread the word across the island. "It's incredible to see what can happen when local businesses and neighbors unite for a shared purpose. We can't wait to see everyone on Dec. 7 as we make a difference for children across South Carolina."







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# All faiths encouraged to join DI's Chanukah celebration and menorah candle lighting

**EMMA SLAVEN**

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For many Daniel Island residents, the annual Chanukah celebration is the one time each year they encounter the holiday's history firsthand, not through textbooks or social media, but through food, ritual, and neighbors who live it.

That opportunity returns Wednesday, Dec. 17, as the 12th Annual DI Chanukah Celebration and Menorah Lighting brings families together at the Daniel Island Charleston Recreation Center from 4:30 to 6 p.m., with the candle lighting set for 5:15 p.m.

The free, family-friendly event aims to share the story, significance, and traditions of Chanukah with the entire community. One of the event's longtime organizers, Fred Danziger, said the holiday's roots are essential to understanding why the celebration matters.

"Chanukah is a time of celebration," Danziger said. "The traditional reason to celebrate Chanukah is to remember the victory of the Maccabees over the Greeks and the rededication of the second temple in Jerusalem."

He said the well-known miracle still shapes how the holiday is celebrated today. "After the destruction of the temple, only a small quantity of oil – a day's supply – was found to

burn in the menorah. And yet, it burned for eight days! This is why the holiday is celebrated for eight days and is also why oil plays such an integral part in the traditional foods of Chanukah."

Those foods – latkes, jelly donuts, and chocolate gelt – will be served at the celebration, along with music, dreidel games (dreidels provided), and the lighting of a ceremonial menorah inside the recreation center. Outdoors, the island's well-recognized nine-foot menorah will also return for the season.

"Yes, the nine-foot menorah, donated by the Daniel Island Community Fund and the Daniel Island Property Owners' Association to the Jewish community, will be positioned once again on the Seven Farms side of Guggenheim Plaza for the duration of the holiday," Danziger said. "The correct number of bulbs/candles will be lit nightly, adding one for each day."

Danziger emphasized that the event is open to everyone, whether or not they observe the holiday. "Our hope is to share the celebration and history with our non-Jewish neighbors. The celebration is open to everyone in the Daniel Island community."

Attendance has grown significantly over the years, something that continues to delight those involved. "The very first



PHOTO BY PATRICK VILLEGAS

**Ellie Porath-Barziv, left, and Matt Levin, right, lead a prayer during the 2024 menorah candle-lighting ceremony.**

celebration had 35 attendees. Last year we had well over 100!" Danziger said. "And personally, the children dancing to the Hora... adorable!!"

No registration is required, and volunteers are needed to help with setup and cleanup. Anyone interested may contact co-chairs Matt Levin at levinml@gmail.com or Fred Danziger at fred.danziger13@gmail.com.

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# Fit to be fried

## The perils of peanut oil, flash points, and turkey frying



### drollery

DALTON WILLIAMS

Here's hoping you had a happy Thanksgiving. The Williams clan collected, as they do each year, at our house to see one another, to talk about family members who didn't come, and to savor the festive fare prepared by my lovely wife, Grace. These times together are memorable milestones in a family's history. This year's gathering was made a little more memorable than most by my first attempt at a tricky technology in Thanksgiving turkeydom: the fried turkey.

Some weeks ago, I suggested we give this turkey technique a try. Grace replied, "We'll see."

"We'll see" are two innocent-sounding words Grace uses a lot in place of "no (fill in the word of your choice) way," or in this case, in place of "are you crazy; you'll burn the house down!" Still, I took her "we'll see" as an approximate approval (big mistake) and bought a turkey fryer, the chrome and brass model. When I confessed what I had done, Grace reluctantly agreed to let me fry the turkey for this year's banquet.

It was then that I noticed two other words printed on the package: assembly required. Those are two words that strike fear into the hearts of most men, MIT grads excluded.

Six hours and two trips to Lowe's later, I got the darn thing assembled. Grace suggested a trial run; I countered that they didn't need to do a trial run of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. Grace closed the discussion by reminding me they didn't do a trial run of the Hindenburg either, and as far as she was concerned, it was my parade.

On Thursday morning, my turkey fryer and I were ready to go. The fryer sat by the garage (Grace wouldn't allow it closer to the house), glistening in the sun. I donned my Boss of the Sauce apron, patted the turkey fryer, and gave it a pep talk: "This is it, girl." I filled her with peanut oil and turned her on to the recommended temperature.

At the appointed time, relatives began to descend on the household. Kids played in the yard. The ladies assembled around the kitchen. The men encircled the turkey fryer, looking intently at the new contraption.

I imagined this was how it might have been 100 years ago when another small group of pioneers gathered on a hilltop in Kitty Hawk.

"Think she'll fly, Dalton?" asked my brother Mark.

"Better point her into the wind," brother-in-law Tom said.

After fetching the turkey from the kitchen, I noticed the fryer temperature was now far beyond the point at which I had set it.

Cousin Ronnie spoke up. "Turned her up for you, Dalton. Can't fry nothing less you get it good and hot!"

Ronnie had worked in the fast food business, so I figured he knew frying. You have to respect experience.

I gently lowered the turkey into the vat. It sank below the surface, bobbed back up, then turned its neck into the wind and began to fry. The group around the fryer exploded into applause.

This moment of excitement was followed by each of us standing there, hands in pockets, watching the turkey bubble. We weren't sure what we were watching for, but if and when it did happen, we'd see it. Conversation turned to weather and then stalled. Slowly, the pioneers peeled off to watch football until no one was watching the turkey.

They say a watched pot never boils. I guess the corollary could then be that a pot not watched will boil. I'm here to tell you otherwise.

Actually, it doesn't boil. There is another term for what happens next – flash point! I looked it up. It is the lowest temperature at which the vapors of a volatile oil will ignite. It is also the point at which all holy hell breaks loose.

"Dalton, your bird's on far!" yelled Ronnie. There wasn't time to tell him that it was actually on "fire," although "far" was not an inappropriate word either. The flames shot up about eight feet and were broiling the bougainvilleas.

"Get a blanket," someone suggested.

"Not a good one," cried Grace from the back door where the ladies had congregated

to watch the conflagration.

"Douse it with water," yelled Ronnie.

Before anyone could stop him, Ronnie had the hose on the fire. Ronnie apparently hadn't done too well in high school physics. The addition of water to the brew caused an eruption that I can still see if I close my eyes – which is what I did then, too. When I opened my eyes, the flames were higher than the garage and beginning to envelop lawn furniture.

I don't know who called the fire department. It was probably Grace; she always knows the right thing to do. The firemen arrived with a hook and ladder, a pumper, and an EMS van. The kids and the men were quite impressed – all that chrome and brass.

The firemen took charge immediately and hit the blaze with a sea of thick, pink foam. The fryer was buried under a pile of the stuff. As the smoke began to clear and the foam pile evaporated, Ronnie began to hum Jim Morrison's "Light my Fire." When a young fireman shot him a stare, Ronnie stopped. Then the fireman turned to me with a look of disdain, as if he were thinking: "Didn't pay attention in physics class, did you?"

I peered into the scorched cauldron. The turkey was nowhere to be seen, probably sunk to the bottom like the Hunley submarine.

"There she is," hollered one of the firemen. The turkey had breached like "Moby Dick."

After the firemen departed, the men gathered around to offer condolences and to cheer me up.

"Sorry it didn't work out, Dalton," offered my brother-in-law Tom.

"You gotta be a professional to drive one of them babies," added Ronnie.

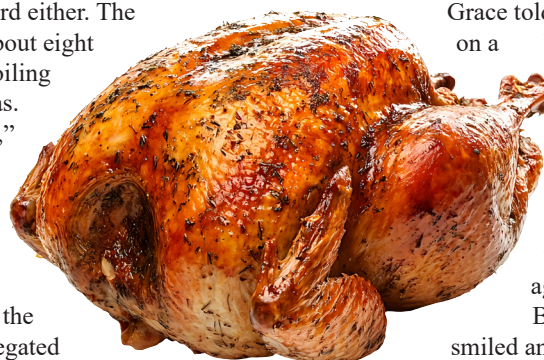
I, on the other hand, envisioned a vegetarian Thanksgiving and everyone trying to be nice and saying it was okay that way. So you can imagine my surprise when I found the table set with a roasted turkey and a honey-baked ham.

Grace told everyone, "Dalton insisted on a back-up plan in case of rain."

It was a fib, but one for which I was thankful.

After the blessing, Travis, Ronnie's boy, declared, "This is the best Thanksgiving ever. Next year, can we fry a turkey again?"

Before I could reply, Grace smiled and said, "We'll see."





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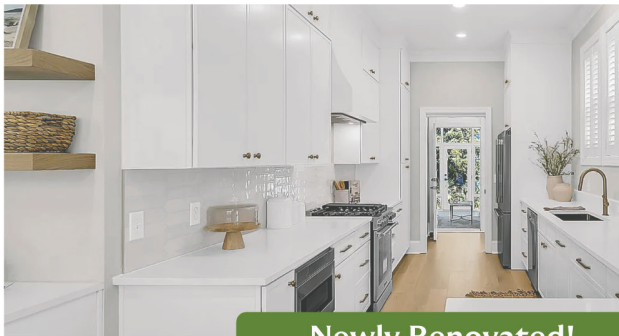
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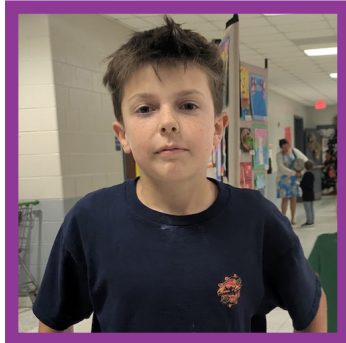
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# KIDS SAY

## What is your favorite holiday event in the area?

Compiled by Rose Monahan  
6th grade, University School



The Credit One Stadium events because they have good food.

Jack, age 11  
Charleston



My favorite event is ice skating... because it's fun.

Kate, age 9  
Charleston



...Ice skating.

Colton, age 11  
Charleston



The ice skating... because ice skating is really fun!

Catherine, age 8  
Charleston



I like ice skating at the Carolina Ice Palace.

Mason, age 11  
Charleston



I like the holiday tree lighting!

Nico, age 7  
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*Holiday travels have you feeling stiff?*

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# 'We don't have the profit motive, we have the lifestyle motive'

## *A new day dawns for the Daniel Island Town Association*

**ELIZABETH BUSH**

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

This isn't Colby Hollifield's first rodeo when it comes to community governance.

He's served on the Daniel Island Community Association Board of Directors for four years and as president for the last year. But soon he, and fellow Daniel Island residents Mike White and Otto Orr, will saddle up for a new adventure as the first property owners elected to the Daniel Island Town Association board.

"I'm excited about it," said Hollifield, a partner in the Daniel Island Ferry. "We moved here 20 years ago for pretty much the same reason everyone else did – because it's such a fantastic place and an awesome island. A great place to raise kids. You can be a four-year-old and love it, and you can be an 80-year-old and love it. That's hard to pull off."

Hollifield commended the Daniel Island Company for its vision and stewardship over the years but understands that the motivation for the new DITA board's work may change once he, White, and Orr take over the reins on Jan. 1.

"They didn't have to build it the way they built it," Hollifield continued, recognizing the developer's efforts. "They didn't have to make it this nice. They've been very dedicated to the standards. I look at it like they've done such an awesome job, and now what we need to do is continue doing that work. The biggest difference is as property owners, we don't have the profit motive. We have a lifestyle motive. We have a property value motive."

More than 80 commercial property owners, including businesses, condominium complexes, and apartment entities, are members of DITA and have voting privileges. The association oversees all of the island's commercial areas, as well as the common areas shared by DITA, the Daniel Island Community Association, and the Daniel Island Park Association, such as the island's trails, stormwater ponds, playgrounds, and pocket parks that are not part of amenities or city-owned open spaces.

White, broker-in-charge for Charleston Industrial LLC, has been a Daniel Island resident for 19 years and sees the changing of the board from developer-controlled to property owner-controlled as a pivotal



**Mike White, one of three newly elected board members for DITA, points to an area outlined in blue that denotes the island's town center, for which DITA has oversight.**

ELIZABETH BUSH

moment.

"Our board will have a fiduciary responsibility," White explained. "We're no longer working for the developer; we're working for the actual ownership. We're going to run this properly, transparently, like a business."

A graduate of West Point who served 11 years in the U.S. Army, White is planning to utilize some of his military background in his new role.

"I want to create metrics for success," he said. "I want to create what we call in the military 'course objectives.' We're not going to be able to fix things in a month. We're probably not going to fix it for three months. But I think by midyear next year, we'll be hitting our stride and we'll know what we have, where the revenue comes in, and where the revenue comes out."

The first task White would like to com-

plete is a "listening tour" among the DITA property owners to better understand their needs. He'd also like to hear from other association board members and the staff members of the Daniel Island Property Owners' Association to learn more about their roles.

As per the bylaws, Mary Stuart Sutton, chief operating officer for the Daniel Island POA, will serve as a declarant appointee on the board for two years to ensure a smooth transition. Sutton will not be a board member but will have veto power.

Hollifield, who also serves on the Daniel Island Community Fund Board of Directors, doesn't expect any issues with the change-over.

"There were zero surprises that I had as a (DICA) board member of how the Daniel Island Company and the POA were doing things on behalf of residents," he said. "Now

that doesn't mean I don't have a lot to learn. But I had no surprises. And the property owner employees currently, and really everyone I've ever met in the past 20 years there, have one thing in common, one common thread – a passion for Daniel Island. Every single one of them."

Among the items the new DITA team hopes to focus on are improving communication, changing the board make-up to five members instead of three, studying erosion issues on the Wando River waterfront, and ensuring a transparent balance sheet.

"We're going to take this on, and we're going to do it right," White said. "I really want to protect everything that has been created over the last 30 years and make it better. (The developer) did a phenomenal job, and I want to honor that, I want to protect that, and I want to build upon that."



# DI Music Academy's Eliza Dennis releases debut single at 17

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

At 17, Bishop England student and Daniel Island Music Academy guitarist Eliza Dennis has already checked off a dream many musicians wait decades to accomplish: releasing her first original single. And if you ask her, it still feels a little surreal.

Dennis, a student and staff member at Daniel Island Music Academy, dropped her debut track, "Thought it Mattered," this fall, a song she wrote in under 30 minutes, produced almost entirely on her own, and now streams on major platforms.

Music may be her future, but it began simply as something she gravitated toward as a child. "I've kind of always been involved in music," she said.

Dennis dabbled in piano early, joined chorus in second grade, and "really fell in love with music" in sixth grade while playing flute. When she arrived at Bishop England, where there is no concert band, her path shifted to her church worship team and, eventually, guitar.

"From that point on, I've been focused on

guitar, and I haven't looked back!" she said. "I have been with DIMA since it opened, and it has been one of the best experiences I've ever had!"

Dennis added that "playing guitar and singing have become a much more prominent part of my life. It was through DIMA that I first started writing and producing songs, so this truly would not be possible without the music academy."

Her influences span genres, from artists like Taylor Swift and Gracie Abrams to John Mayer and Megan Moroney. Many of her ideas arrive as quick flashes of emotion or melody, exactly how "Thought it Mattered" was born.

"I sat down in my room one Monday with the idea for a single lyric, and half an hour later, I had the entire song written," Dennis said. "It was almost as though the song wrote itself."

Producing it took months and plenty of trial and error. "Anything you hear in the song was played or sung by me," she said, crediting her guitar teacher, Jake Willis, for helping her polish the final mix.

Her debut single grew from a friendship



that faded, capturing that universal moment when two people insist everything is fine, though it isn't. "It's written from this place

of the realization that the other person is breaking all of the 'rules' for how a good friend would treat you," she said.

Performing it live, first at the Coastal Carolina Fair and later at fundraisers for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, cemented her dream of creating music others connect with.

"One of my favorite things about playing music is that it gives me the ability to share something that I absolutely love," she said.

Balancing senior year with music isn't easy, but Dennis is committed to her future. "I am planning to double major in music production and business. My goal is to eventually be working in a recording studio setting, along with teaching and leading worship."

With another single already underway, Dennis hopes to someday write an album. "Writing songs gives me the opportunity to share a bigger piece of myself," she said, and knowing people connect with her music "means the world."

"Thought it Mattered" is available now on Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube, and Amazon Music.

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# Side hustles on the rise

## Modern workdays don't always end at 5 p.m.

EMMA SLAVEN

emma@thedanielislandnews.com

On Daniel Island, the 9-to-5 clock-out doesn't always signal the end of the workday.

In kitchens, garages, and home offices, locals are launching side hustles – from custom baked goods to fitness coaching – turning after-hours passion into profit.

For some, it's a creative outlet. For others, it's a financial lifeline.

Side hustles, once considered optional extras, have become essential for many Americans. SurveyMonkey's 2025 U.S. side-hustle statistics show that 72% of workers either have one or are considering starting one.

While passion projects drive some, others are responding to stagnant wages, inflation, and the unpredictability of the job market.

"I wish I could just focus on my main job, but it doesn't pay enough to cover everything," said Daniel Island resident Marisa Gomez, who supplements her income with weekend tutoring. "It's not

much of a choice at this point; it's a necessity."

Locally, the most popular side hustles mirror national trends: selling handmade goods online, tutoring, social media content creation, consulting, real estate photography, and small-scale fitness coaching.

Platforms like Etsy, Substack, and Patreon have become digital marketplaces where locals can turn hobbies into legitimate microenterprises.

"I started making candles just for fun," said Katie Ross, who works full-time in IT. "But with the cost of living going up, it quickly became more than a hobby; it's helping pay bills."

Bankrate reports that the average side-hustle income is \$885 a month, though Millennials and Gen Z can earn over \$1,000 monthly. For many, that extra cash isn't just a bonus; it's survival.

While the extra work brings opportunity, it also brings challenges. Sidehustles.com reports that 67% of side hustlers experience burnout, with more than half saying the stress is only worth it if they earn at least \$500 a week.

"Balancing a full-time job, family, and my Etsy

shop is exhausting," said Savannah Meyers, a server on Clements Ferry. "But if I didn't do it, we wouldn't make ends meet some months."

The side-hustle boom, SurveyMonkey reports, reflects a deeper evolution in the way Americans work today. Many workers feel limited growth at their primary job – 43% report few or no advancement opportunities – and are using side gigs to gain skills, income, and autonomy. The rise of polyworking – juggling multiple jobs – signals a new kind of career strategy: one that combines survival with personal ambition.

For Daniel Island residents, the benefits go beyond money. Side hustles can offer creative fulfillment, flexible scheduling, and, in some cases, the chance to turn a passion into a full-time business. But it also reveals a stark reality: for many, the modern side hustle isn't a luxury; it's a necessary response to today's economic pressures.

"I don't want to work multiple jobs," Gomez said. "But right now, it's what keeps my family afloat. And if I can learn something or enjoy it along the way, that's a bonus."



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# During the holidays, practice gratitude (and eat your vegetables)



## management moment

**DOUG DICKERSON**

*"...And I know it's not much  
But I've nothing else fit for a king  
Except for a heart singing hallelujah  
Hallelujah"*  
- Lyrics from "Gratitude"  
by Brandon Lake

Every year at this time, I find myself in a season of reflection between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each one now carries a much different meaning, especially since both of my parents are now at home in heaven.

During this season, what are you thankful for? What memories do you still look back on that still bring a smile to your face?

I read about the Thompson family, who played a little game called "Say Something You're Thankful For." It was supposed to be heartwarming. It was supposed to be meaningful. It was supposed to bring the family

together.

Year after year, it never succeeded. Not once.

This year, however, 7-year-old Lucas was determined to win, even though no one had ever explained how one wins gratitude.

Grandma started. "I'm thankful for my health," she said, patting her knees as if they had personally carried her through the Great Depression.

Aunt Carol followed. "I'm thankful for my cat, Mr. Whiskers, whose presence fills my home with joy." (The truth was that Mr. Whiskers filled her home with fur and passive-aggressive judgment, but who was keeping track?)

Then it was Jimmy's turn. He had planned all week. He cleared his throat dramatically, stood up, and declared, "I'm thankful for... not being a turkey." Everyone stared.

He continued, hands on his hips like a tiny philosopher. "Because if I were a turkey, this holiday would be very different for me."

The table erupted in laughter, except Uncle Dave, who choked a little on his mashed potatoes.

Also, Jimmy added, sensing his come-



dic momentum, "I'm thankful for Wi-Fi, juice boxes, and that Mom can't make me eat green beans if I hide them under my napkin."

Mom sighed. Grandpa applauded. Aunt Carol looked like she wanted to adopt him.

And for the first time in the Thompson family history, the game brought everyone together. Even if half of the togetherness involved checking under napkins for hidden

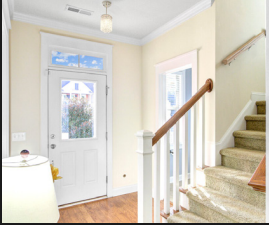
vegetables.

As we gather around the table during this season with your loved ones, may we need to be less concerned about how perfect everything must be and practice gratitude for what matters most: those gathered at the table, cherishing every moment, and when we can, hiding vegetables.

Learn more at [doug dickerson.net/](http://doug dickerson.net/). Email Doug at [doug dickersonleadership@gmail.com](mailto:doug dickersonleadership@gmail.com). ©2025 Doug Dickerson

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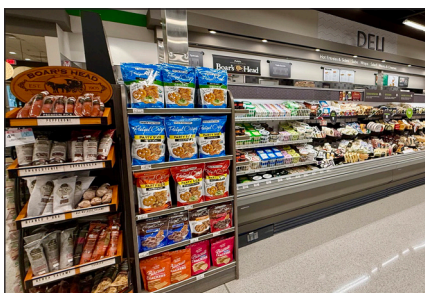
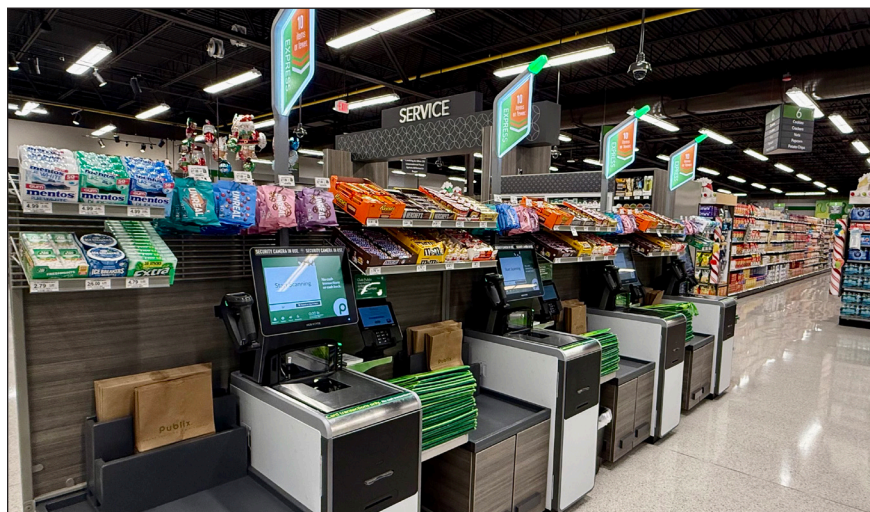


# Rebuilt. Reopened. Ready.

## Inside the new Daniel Island Publix

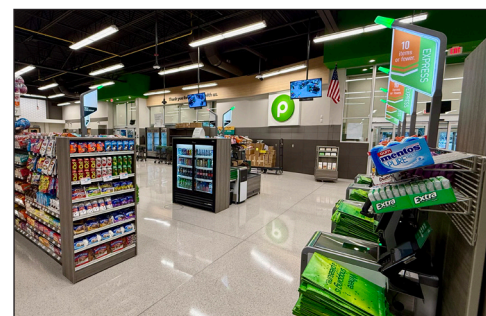
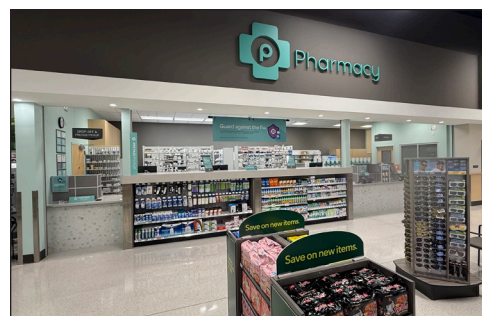
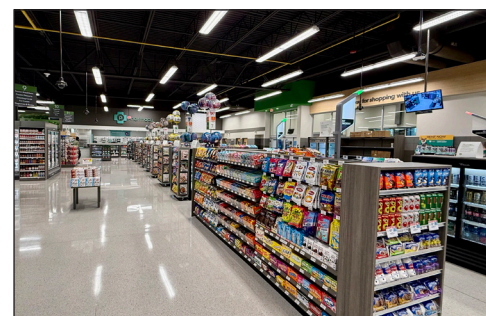
EMMA SLAVEN

After nearly a year without the island's only grocery store, the new Daniel Island Publix officially opened its doors Wednesday, Dec. 3. The store at 162 Seven Farms Drive was completely demolished and rebuilt from the ground up, expanding from 29,030 to 50,398 square feet. The redesigned Publix brings a larger selection of foods, upgraded departments, Lowcountry-inspired architecture, and a welcoming outdoor pavilion. Here's a first look inside the new store.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JARED GLOVER

The newly rebuilt Daniel Island Publix at 162 Seven Farms Drive officially opened its doors on Wednesday, Dec. 3.



# Final voting begins for The Best of Daniel Island 2026!

After more than 7,000 nominations, the finalists for the BEST OF DANIEL ISLAND 2026 have been revealed!

Now it's your chance to make a difference by voting for your favorites to declare them the Best of Daniel Island.

- Final Round voting continues through Tuesday, Dec. 23.

- You can vote once per day in each category.

- Vote online at [thedanielislandnews.com/bestof#//](http://thedanielislandnews.com/bestof#/)

- There is absolutely no cost required to

vote or win.

Finalists who receive the most votes will be celebrated at an exclusive Best of Daniel Island winners' event next spring.

If you or your business are named a Top 5 finalist, promotional advertising packages are available to support you during the final voting campaign, as high reader engagement is expected.

Finalists can learn more by contacting Ronda Schilling at [ronda@thedanielislandnews.com](mailto:ronda@thedanielislandnews.com), Patrick Villegas at [patrick@thedanielislandnews.com](mailto:patrick@thedanielislandnews.com), or by visiting

the contest page at [danielislandnews.com](http://danielislandnews.com).

Winners will be showcased in the inaugural Best of Daniel Island glossy magazine, on the winners' website, and will receive a free framed certificate and window cling.

Winners' notifications will be sent by The Daniel Island News' staff in January 2026 and will be officially announced at the inaugural Best of Daniel Island event in spring 2026.

Good luck and happy voting!





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# So much cheer, so little time.

## Your essential Lowcountry holiday must-see and do list

**EMMA SLAVEN**  
[emma@thedanielislandnews.com](mailto:emma@thedanielislandnews.com)

The Lowcountry is lighting up for the holidays! From parades to tree lightings and Santa sightings, there's no shortage of festive fun. Here's your guide to all the local magic happening this season.

**DANIEL ISLAND  
HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT  
AT SMYTHE PARK**

**When:** Thurs., Dec. 4, 4:30-7:45 p.m.; movie begins at 6 p.m.  
**Where:** Smythe Park  
**What:** Watch "The Santa Clause" under the stars with a reindeer station, crafts, face painting, and local food vendors. Presented by Daniel Island School PTA and the Daniel Island Community Fund.  
**Tickets:** Free.



FILE

magical snowfall, Santa and Mrs. Claus visits, cookie decorating, face painting, caricature art,

**ANNUAL TREE  
LIGHTING  
CEREMONY**

**When:** Fri, Dec. 5; Gates open 6 p.m., tree lighting at 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Credit One Stadium  
**What:** Enjoy live music from Shane Griffin Entertainment, a

fairy hair, and festive treats. Fresh Christmas trees available from the Delancey Street Foundation.  
**Tickets:** Free.

**18TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CLASSIC**

**When:** Fri-Sun, Dec. 5-7, 5 p.m.  
**Where:** LTP Daniel Island  
**What:** Tennis and pickleball doubles tournament benefiting MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. Includes a Friday night player dinner, awards, and a toy drive (bring a new, unwrapped gift from the MUSC Child Life Wish List).  
**Tickets:** Register online at [tinyurl.com/bdz264ww](http://tinyurl.com/bdz264ww).

**SANTA PAWS AT MICHAEL'S BARKERY**

**When:** Sat, Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Where:** Michael's Barkery Pet Spa & Boutique  
**What:** Pet photos with Santa Paws, a free digital image, optional \$20 photo ornament, and goat's milk and cookies for dogs.  
**Tickets:** RSVP at [michaelsbarkery.com/event-details-1/santa-paws-2/form](http://michaelsbarkery.com/event-details-1/santa-paws-2/form).

**OVERTURE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**

**When:** Sat, Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Where:** Overture Daniel Island  
**What:** Celebrate with artisan and craft vendors, plus a special visit from Santa and his elves to help kids write letters and spread cheer.  
**Tickets:** Free; open to all ages.

**WHOBILATION FESTIVAL & MOVIE NIGHT**

**When:** Sun, Dec. 7; Festival 2-5 p.m., movie 5-7 p.m.

**Where:** New Realm Brewery  
**What:** A Whoville-themed celebration featuring meet-and-greets with the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who, sweet treats, cocoa, themed bites, kids' crafts, holiday music, costume prizes, and photo ops. Followed by an outdoor screening of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)."  
**Tickets:** Free; bring blankets for a cozy time.

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

**When:** Fri, Dec. 12, 6-7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Church of the Holy Spirit Courtyard  
**What:** Enjoy classic Christmas carols performed by the Daniel Island Music Academy, Daniel Island School students, and church members. Warm drinks and treats available from a food truck.  
**Tickets:** Free; open to all.

**12TH ANNUAL DI CHANUKAH  
CELEBRATION & MENORAH LIGHTING**

**When:** Wed, Dec. 17, 4:30-6 p.m.; candle lighting at 5:15 p.m.  
**Where:** Daniel Island Recreation Center  
**What:** A community celebration featuring traditional food, music, games, and the menorah lighting ceremony. All faiths welcome.  
**Tickets:** Free.

**NEW REALM CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**When:** Sat, Dec. 20, 12-5 p.m.  
**Where:** New Realm Brewery  
**What:** A festive market with local artisans, sweet treats, seasonal brews, and live music by DJ Earl and 40 Mile Detour. A great stop for holiday shopping and last-minute gifts.  
**Tickets:** Free.

**CLEMENTS FERRY ROAD  
ROCKIN' AROUND THE VILLAGE GREEN**

**When:** Sat, Dec. 6, 3-6 p.m.  
**Where:** Point Hope Village Green  
**What:** Celebrate the season with live music by Lady Jane, strolling carolers, stilt walkers, face painting, festive "snow showers," and a holiday market featuring local vendors and artisans. The event wraps up with a community tree lighting.  
**Tickets:** Free and open to the public.

**DOG & DUCK CHRISTMAS PAJAMA PARTY**

**When:** Wed, Dec. 24, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
**Where:** Dog & Duck Clements Ferry  
**What:** Slip into your coziest Christmas pajamas for the third Annual Christmas Pajama Party! Enjoy cookie decorating, hot cocoa, festive vibes, and all your favorite Dog & Duck menu items.  
**Tickets:** Free admission; food and drink available for purchase.

**MOUNT PLEASANT  
MOUNT PLEASANT HOLIDAY MARKET  
& CRAFT SHOW**

**When:** Sat, Dec. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Where:** Mount Pleasant Farmers Market Pavilion  
**What:** A festive, holiday-themed version of the town's beloved farmers market featuring handcrafted gifts, homemade treats, ornaments, pottery, photography, and more from local artisans. Enjoy live entertainment, balloon art, caricature drawings, and a visit from Santa.  
**Tickets:** Free admission and free parking.

**MOUNT PLEASANT CHRISTMAS  
LIGHT PARADE**

**When:** Sun, Dec. 14, 5:30-8 p.m.

**Where:** Coleman Boulevard (Live Oak Drive Patriots Point Road)  
**What:** Kick off the night with a fireworks show at 5:30 p.m., followed by a parade featuring marching bands, a Mount Pleasant Police motorcycle demonstration, and hundreds of illuminated floats glowing with thousands of twinkling lights. Santa closes out the night aboard a Mount Pleasant firetruck.  
**Tickets:** Free and open to the public.



PROVIDED BY HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

**CHARLESTON  
HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

**When:** Nightly through Dec. 31; opens at 5:30 p.m.  
**Where:** James Island County Park  
**What:** A Lowcountry tradition featuring over 2 million lights and more than 750 displays along a three-mile driving route. Park and explore family activities, shopping, treats, and more festive fun throughout the park.  
**Tickets:** Pricing and details at [HolidayFestivalofLights.com](http://HolidayFestivalofLights.com).

See **CHEER** on **PAGE 18**



CHEER from PAGE 17

### BUDDY'S BIG CITY TREE LIGHTING

When: Fri, Dec. 5, 6:30-10 p.m.

Where: The Charleston City Market (Meeting St. to East Bay St.); Tree lighting in Anson Square at 7:15 p.m.

What: Hosted by Buddy the Elf! Enjoy free hot cocoa and cookies, character meet-and-greets with Elsa & Friends and MOOLAN the baby Highland cow, Santa visits, live music, and festive fun for all ages. Bring a toy for Toys for Tots.

Tickets: Free.

### HOLY CITY HOLIDAY PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

When: Sun, Dec. 7; Parade at 3 p.m., tree lighting at 6 p.m.

Where: Downtown Charleston; parade travels from Broad St. up Meeting St., ending at Calhoun & Meeting. Tree lighting follows in Marion Square.

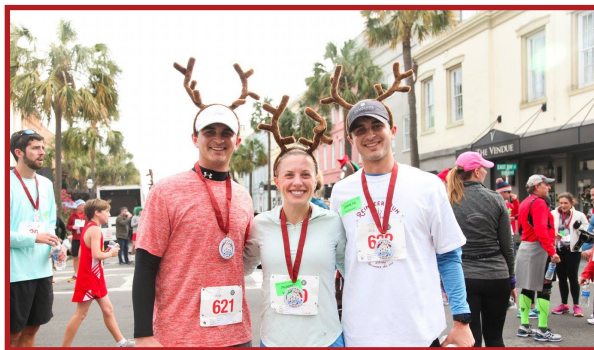
What: This downtown tradition features a lively holiday parade followed by the lighting of the Tree of Lights in Marion Square.

Tickets: Free.

### 34TH ANNUAL REINDEER RUN/WALK

When: Sat, Dec. 13; Race begins at 8 a.m.

Where: 137 N. Market St., downtown Charleston (Start/finish at The Charleston Place)



PROVIDED BY CHARLESTON REINDEER RUN

What: A festive, family-friendly 5K supporting MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. Features a costume contest for adults, kids, groups, and dogs. Pet-friendly. Tickets: \$40 adults, \$20 children, \$10 dogs. Register at reindeerrun.org.

### CHANUKAH IN THE SQUARE

When: Sun, Dec. 14, 4-7 p.m.

Where: Marion Square, 329 Meeting St.

What: Charleston's official menorah lighting celebration with live music, kids activities, a giant menorah, and plenty of free hot latkes, donuts, pretzels, hotdogs, burgers, kettle corn, treats, and giveaways.

Tickets: Free.

### THE CHARLESTON SANTA

When: Weekends in December; times vary.

Where: The Best Friend Train Museum (between the Downtown Visitor Center & the Children's Museum of the Lowcountry)

What: Meet Santa and snap a holiday photo. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

Tickets: Complimentary photo; additional photo packages available. Reserve at thecharlestonsanta.com.



PROVIDED BY SC AQUARIUM

### SANTA AT THE AQUARIUM

When: Weekends in December, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where: South Carolina Aquarium

What: Visit Santa, enjoy holiday-themed dive shows, "feed the RAYndeer," drop letters in the North Pole mailbox, and complete a scavenger hunt for prizes.

Tickets: General admission required; prices vary.



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# Iron Horse boys' basketball team wins 100th victory in program's history

**PHILIP M. BOWMAN**  
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Philip Simmons High School boys' basketball coach Garrett Campbell would probably like to forget his team's first game in the history of the new school.

It was Nov. 28, 2017, and the opponent was North Charleston. The results were crushing. The Cougars blasted a bunch of Iron Horse freshmen and sophomores, who, in reality, were a junior varsity team playing a varsity schedule. The final score: North Charleston 101, PSHS 26.

But Campbell remembered the game and would go on to use it to measure just how far the Iron Horses have come since that first game.

Fast forward to Nov. 22, 2025, when the Iron Horses topped Charleston Math & Science, 55-21, in Day 2 of the Riptide Invitational. Not only did the triumph give the Iron Horses a 2-0 record to start the 2025-26 season, it was also the 100th victory in the program's brief history.

The Iron Horses didn't even need a decade to become one of the better teams in the state, producing all-state players and four 1,000-career-point performers under the direction of Campbell, one of the state's top young coaches. The Fab 4 who reached 1,000 points included Jaylen Green, the



PROVIDED BY PHILIP SIMMONS HIGH SCHOOL

**The 2025-26 Philip Simmons boys' varsity basketball team celebrates its 100th victory in the school's brief history.**

Haight brothers, Miles and Marc; and Robert Watson.

Campbell poured a solid foundation that first season and focused on fundamentals.

"We've had a great team chemistry, and that really helped," said Campbell, who played basketball at Myrtle Beach High School and walked on to play for the College of Charleston and its legendary coach Bobby Cremins. "The quality of the kids, on

and off the court, was outstanding. Not only that, I was blessed with skilled players who knew how to play basketball."

The team will be quite different than last year's version when Blake Darby and Hudson Hatch, both at 6-foot-9, gave PSHS one of the best inside presences in the Palmetto State as the Iron Horses finished with a 19-6 record and won the Region 6-AA championship with a 10-0 mark.

Darby, who averaged 9.1 points and 6.6 rebounds a game, graduated, while Hatch transferred to the Christ School in North Carolina. Hatch, also an outstanding golfer, averaged 10.8 points a game, hitting 58 percent of his shots. He also averaged 6.6 rebounds.

Still, there is talent on campus, including 6-4 Hopper Afman, who averaged 6.8 points and 2.6 rebounds last winter.

Junior Jack Mevold, 6-4, 200 pounds, is equally at ease as a power forward or shooting forward.

Palmer Driggers, the younger brother of last year's point guard Corbin Driggers, directs the offense from his point guard position. He can read defenses, is deft in his ball distribution, and is solid fundamentally on defense.

The Iron Horses basketball team has had success in its first two games. The Iron Horses also had success in their just-completed football season as coach Eric Bendig guided his team to a Region 6-AA championship and a berth in the third round of the playoffs to finish with a 10-3 record.

Six of those footballers are now transitioning to basketball. The six players will make up 40 percent of the roster.

"The key will be incorporating the football guys," Campbell said. "That's critical."

## Seasoned PSHS girls' hoops squad looks to rebound in '25-26

**PHILIP M. BOWMAN**  
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

The Philip Simmons High School girls' basketball team's inexperience showed up just about everywhere last winter in Allen Gethers' first year at the helm of the program.

The inexperience was evident with a quick glance at the roster as only two players began the season with varsity experience.

It showed up in the game results as the Iron Horses opened the season with only one victory in their first eight games.

And it showed up in the Iron Horses' fundamentals as the team struggled to be consistent at the foul line and making layups.

But Gethers & Co. staved off disaster thanks to players who worked hard every day to get better in the weight room and on

the court.

That commitment and mindset resulted in a strong finish. The Iron Horses posted a 10-15 record and qualified for the Class AA playoffs by finishing in third place in Region 6-AA with a 6-4 record.

In fact, the overall record could have been 14-11, but the Iron Horses dropped four games by a combined 11 points.

"When I look back and reflect on last year, I am excited because we have the same group of girls as we did last year," Gethers said. "I learned a lot about them, and they learned about me. It was a learning experience for everybody."

The team, which had only two players with varsity experience last winter, has a nucleus of three talented players who earned all-region honors: Germany Moore, Kenira Holmes, and Harper Cohen.

Moore, a senior with a strong inside presence, set a single-season school record with 301 rebounds last winter. She also led the team with 11 points per game and 44 percent shooting. Gethers described her as a tough battler down low in the paint.

Holmes is a senior and looks to improve on last year's numbers: 7.4 points, 10 rebounds, and 1.9 assists per game. Gethers praised her work in the offseason in the gym and weight room.

Gethers called the junior Cohen a dedicated and energetic player with a strong work ethic. She played AAU basketball for a team in Tennessee during the offseason. She can play either shooting or point guard. She averaged 6.1 points, 1.6 assists, and 2.1 steals.

Dylan Porcher and Wellsley Roe are young stars in the making. Porcher is a

freshman and Roe is a sophomore.

The Iron Horses finished third in the region behind league champ Burke High School and runner-up Timberland. The Iron Horses could have won the league title if not for a missed shot here, or a turnover there.

The Iron Horses dropped a three-point decision at Burke. They dropped a two-point home decision to Timberland, and lost in overtime at Timberland by three points.

"It all comes down to who is making free throws and layups," Gethers said. "We have to finish. Last year, we did not. I feel if we can do the little things, we can accomplish the big things."

The Iron Horses begin the season with two tough non-conference games. They hosted Wando High on Dec. 3 and now travel to Bishop England Dec. 5.



# Bishop grapplers begin wrestling season with front-loaded schedule

**PHILIP M. BOWMAN**  
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Ready or not, the high school wrestling season commences Dec. 2. Knowing coach Paul Spence, the Bishop England grapplers will be ready. “We wrestle Wando and Woodland on Dec. 2,” said Spence, who is in his 39th year as the coach of the Bishop grapplers. “On Dec. 3, we wrestle Lucy Beckham and Academic Magnet. We compete in the Aynor Duals the weekend of Dec. 4-5. That’s eight matches in the first week.”

Those eight matches will test the Bishops’ talent and mettle as Spence closes in on four decades at the school.

Spence is second to only Paul Runey in tenure among BE athletic coaches. (Runey, who coaches girls’ basketball, is in his 52nd year.) Spence has coached more than 150 wrestlers who reached the state playoffs. Eighteen wrestlers have been crowned state champs.

Spence isn’t all about winning and losing. He teaches life lessons, hoping the discipline and dedication the student-athletes employ on the mat carry over into adult life, including

the corporate world and family life. “We talk about mental toughness and taking responsibility,” said Spence, who was the BE teacher of the year for the 2024-25 academic year. “Wrestling is not all about winning. Everybody wants to win, but what it comes down to is being a good person and following your faith. You are not going to get to heaven by winning a state wrestling championship.”

The enrollment and the number of students who participate in wrestling put the Bishops at a disadvantage before a match even commences because they have to forfeit four or five weight classes. That can all but kill a team’s chances of winning a state team title.

Two wrestlers on the team have individual state wrestling experience: Finn Randall and Brody Tonon. Randall is a senior who is seeking his third trip to the state finals. He will compete in either the 157- or 165-pound classification. Tonon transferred from Philip Simmons High School and played for coach Logan Hall’s football team. He is making the transition from the gridiron to the mat and should round into form by mid-December. He was a state qualifier at 190 pounds for the Iron Horses.



PROVIDED BY BISHOP ENGLAND

**The Bishop England wrestling team kicks off the 2025-26 with eight matches in its first week.**

The Bishops compete in Region 6-AAAA, which is arguably the toughest in the state. May River tops the SCmat.com preseason poll, holding down the No. 1 spot, while Beaufort checks in at No. 13. Bluffton is 16th, while Hilton Head is 20th. Colleton County, the other team in the region, has two wrestlers who reached the state tournament last winter.

The Bishops have other talented wrestlers in addition to their top two. They include Tommy Sheehan, Cooper Hardy, Logan Tron-

ski, Luke Wohlfeil, Edwin Guzman, Vicente Robayo, and Aaron Traeger.

“I want my wrestlers to work hard,” Spence said. “Having a good work ethic will take you far in life. I want our wrestlers to win on the mat. And I want them to win in life.”

The Bishop wrestlers will compete in the Class AAAA Lower State the weekend of Feb. 13-14. The state meet will be held a week later at the Florence Civic Center.



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# Like all the fish in the sea, my phone went swimming (again!)



## fishing trends

**GREG PERALTA**

While I have the ability to catch fish, I cannot manage to keep an iPhone.

Unfortunately, my phones tend to go swimming – a lot! Given the amount of time I spend on the water, perhaps it is inevitable.

I wonder if many years from now one of my swimming phones will be found. What would the pictures on the phone tell them about me?

**Observation #1:** This guy must be chronically unemployed. All he does is fish.

**Observation #2:** Being chronically unemployed gives you plenty of time to hang around with your friends and family. Of course, hanging around for this guy means fishing and eating at really nice

restaurants.

**Observation #3:** His dog must be chronically unemployed as well. Clearly, the dog loves to fish and eat at really nice restaurants. Also, it seems the dog had an affinity for investments. Specifically, trading stocks and cryptocurrency.

**Observation #4:** If that tall blonde is his wife, he is a very lucky guy. Clearly, that woman is a saint. She let him go fishing all the time!

**Observation #5:** This guy seems really happy. He is always smiling and enjoying life.

**Observation #6:** There might be something to being chronically unemployed.

I hope that is what the finder of my lost phone observes! As we enter the holiday season, take a moment to look at your phone pictures. I assure you, all the things that you are thankful for are represented there.



GREG PERALTA

When fishing, Capt. Greg Peralta and his son Elliott know all too well that phones can be catch and release too.



# Happy Holidays

Now is the time to begin planning if you are considering a move within the next 12 months. We have over 35 years of experience listing and selling homes throughout the Charleston area and would be honored to have the opportunity to assist you.

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# Arthur Lane outdrives Pick 'Em players, beats Chris Buchholz of Par Paradise



Arthur Lane

Arthur Lane won't have to worry about eating turkey leftovers after winning a \$50 gift card to the NY Butcher Shoppe.

The Daniel Island resident picked 10 of 12 games correctly and also nabbed the tiebreaker, not only beating the online field and VIP sponsor Chris Buchholz of Par Paradise, who went 9-3, but also taking down his friendly, nearby competition.

"I play Pigskin to beat my neighbor," Lane joked via email. "He's gotten a little full of himself with his

Indiana Hoosiers playing well, so this should knock him down a peg. \$50 to NY Butcher is the cherry on top."

Lane, his wife, and his daughter have resided on Daniel Island for seven of the 10 years they've lived in the Lowcountry.

"Started in an apartment shortly after Simmons Park opened, bought a house in Park Circle, and then moved back to the island in Etiwan Park four years ago after having our daughter," he said.

So - could this week be your week to talk some

smack and win a \$50 gift certificate to Wasabi?

It's easy to do! Scan the QR code on the next page, visit [bit.ly/DIN\\_football16](https://bit.ly/DIN_football16) to fill out your picks, or email [patrick@thedanielislandnews.com](mailto:patrick@thedanielislandnews.com) to receive a weekly ballot. Submit your picks by 5 p.m. Friday, then root for your favorite teams to win big!

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Chris Buchholz  
Par Paradise



123-51  
**THIS WEEK'S BALLOT:**

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio State  
BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia



Garret McNally  
Mac's Daniel Island



121-53  
**THIS WEEK'S BALLOT:**

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio  
State BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia



Edie Coupe  
Carolina One



121-53  
**THIS WEEK'S BALLOT:**

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio  
State BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia



Michael Patterson  
Patterson Law Firm



121-53  
**THIS WEEK'S BALLOT:**

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio State  
BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia



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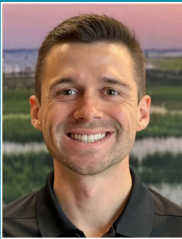




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Tyler Letson

# Beat Tyler Letson of Mt. Pleasant Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram

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**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio  
State BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia

**NFL**  
Titans at Browns  
Dolphins at Jets  
Steelers at Ravens  
Commanders at Vikings  
Bears at Packers  
Colts at Jaguars



Jimmy Foti  
Foti Law Firm



120-54  
THIS  
WEEK'S  
BALLOT:

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio State  
BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia

**NFL**  
Titans at Browns  
Dolphins at Jets  
Steelers at Ravens  
Commanders at Vikings  
Bears at Packers  
Colts at Jaguars



Gabe Jolly  
Carolina One



118-56  
THIS  
WEEK'S  
BALLOT:

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio  
State BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia

**NFL**  
Titans at Browns  
Dolphins at Jets  
Steelers at Ravens  
Commanders at Vikings  
Bears at Packers  
Colts at Jaguars



Tyler Letson  
Mount Pleasant Chrysler Dodge  
Jeep Ram



110-64  
THIS  
WEEK'S  
BALLOT:

**COLLEGE GAMES**  
North Texas vs Tulane  
Western Michigan vs Miami  
Georgia vs Alabama  
Indiana vs Ohio  
State BYU vs Texas Tech  
Duke vs Virginia

**NFL**  
Titans at Browns  
Dolphins at Jets  
Steelers at Ravens  
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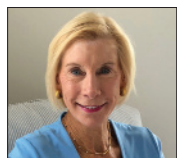


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# Compelling, fun books to read during the holidays



## read all about it

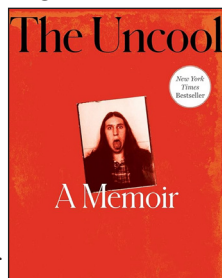
BECKY BECHHOLD

An early book list for the coming holiday!

As promised, three non-fiction options:

**“The Zorg” by Siddharth Kara.** The Zorg was one of thousands of slave ships carrying humans from Africa to the West. The owners purchased insurance on the lives of the people they were taking to sell. If they run into trouble and throw the people off to their death (yes, that is what they did, including a mother and her newborn), are they eligible to be paid for the “loss of cargo?” That was an actual legal battle in the 1780s, meticulously articulated by Kara in this book. Compelling and horrifying.

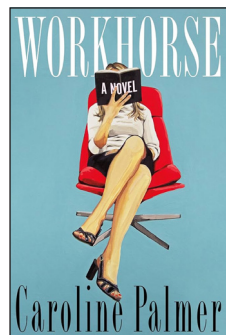
**“The Uncool” by Cameron Crowe.** Crowe, of “Almost Famous,” shares more of his hilarious mother



and his early career as a music writer. If you are taking a driving trip, this is an excellent audiobook. Crowe is an animated and entertaining narrator.

**“When All the Men Wore Hats” by Susan Cheever.** An accomplished writer on her own, Cheever unpacks the origin of her father, John Cheever, and his renown short stories, as well as his writing career. Deeply personal, honest, and revealing, but also descriptive of the writing process. A must-read for language lovers and New Yorker devotees.

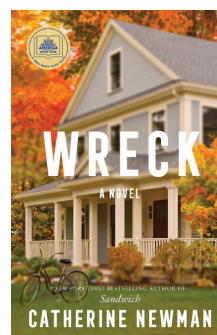
On to fiction:



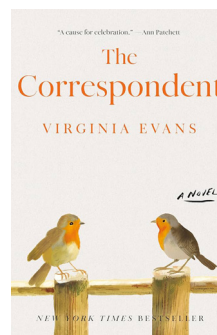
**“Workhorse” by Caroline Palmer.** “The Devil Wears Prada” meets “The Talented Mr. Ripley.” The author is the former editor of Vogue.com, which gives her credibility. Worker bee versus nepo baby at a fashion magazine. Couture,

glamour, swag, alcohol, drugs, and decep-

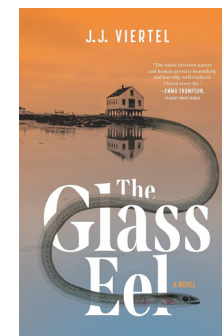
tion. A delicious tale.



**“Wreck” by Catherine Newman.** While reading this on a plane, I was giggling so hard I had to hide my face. Newman writes about relatable people and says things most of us think but would never utter aloud! Do yourself a favor and pick this up.

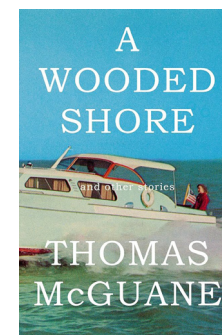


**“The Correspondent” by Virginia Evans.** A truly delightful epistolary novel. A retired attorney conducts much of her life via correspondence. As she moves through her 70s, she comes to terms with many of the personal and professional choices



she made along her illustrious career.

**“The Glass Eel” by J.J. Viertel.** A thriller set on the coast of Maine among the oysters, lobsters, and the remarkably profitable glass eels. Fast-paced, well-constructed story with gritty characters. Enjoy the ride.



**“A Wooded Shore” by Thomas McGuane.** A collection of tragic-comic stories by McGuane, who is widely lauded as a short-form master.

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# DIS mock trial students argue their way into the top 10

MISTY JO NEILSON  
news@thedanielislandnews.com

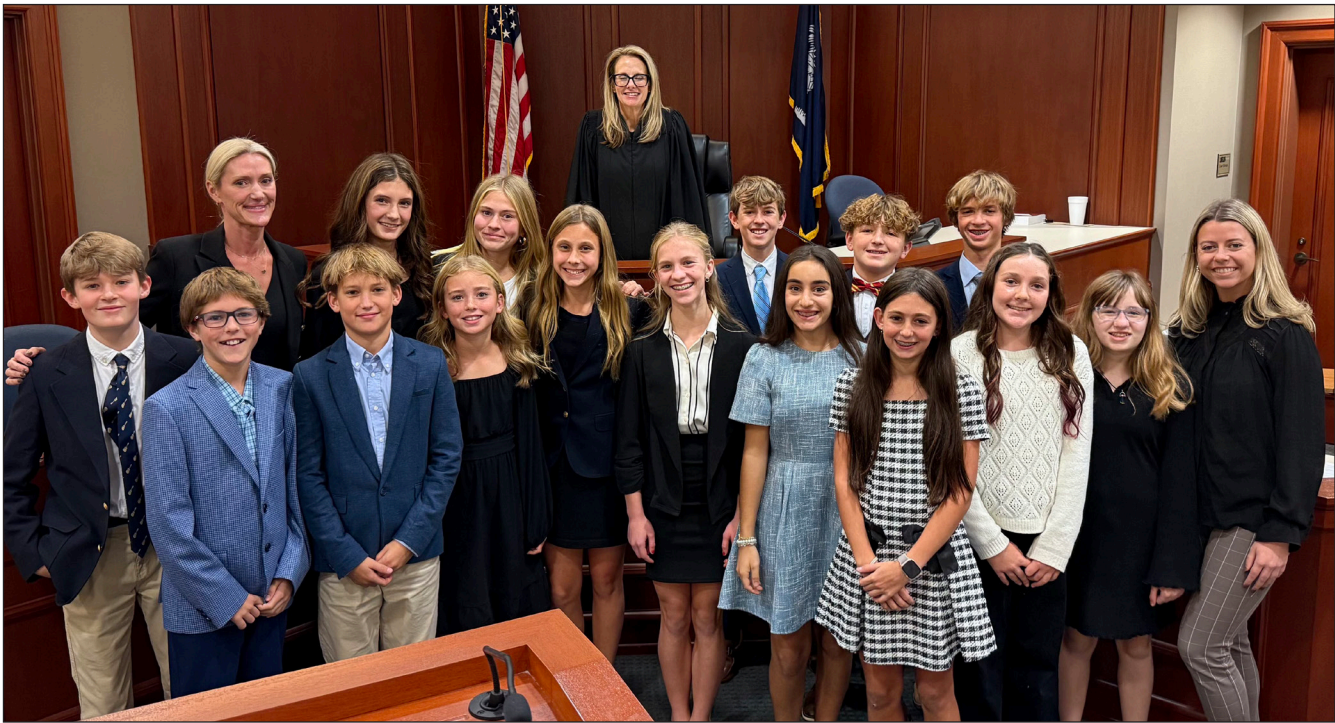
Daniel Island School students put their legal skills to the test on Nov. 15 when they participated in the South Carolina Bar Middle School Mock Trial regional competition at the Horry County Courthouse in Conway, South Carolina.

Fifteen students in grades six through eight formed the team of lawyers and witnesses for a fictional real estate construction case, coached by teacher Maire Schlick and local attorney Amanda Blundy.

The mock trial program develops critical thinking and public speaking skills while teaching participants about the judicial system. Students worked for three months to prepare and argue their case in front of real-life judges. The Daniel Island team finished in the top 10 out of 30 teams, with Claire Roth named most effective attorney and Sadie Skidmore named most effective witness.

This is only the second year the Daniel Island School has participated in mock trial, and Schlick and Blundy said the new team exceeded their expectations.

“I am so incredibly proud of how hard these students worked this fall, and we can’t wait to come back next year and qualify for states,” Schlick said.



Daniel Island School students participated in the South Carolina Bar's Middle School Mock Trial program, which develops legal skills including critical thinking and public speaking.

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# A night around the world at Daniel Island School

PROVIDED BY DANIELLE LOFLAND  
DIS PTA

Daniel Island School brought the world a little closer to home with its annual World Fair, a community event that celebrates diversity, learning, and togetherness. Families, students, and staff were invited to travel the globe without leaving the school through an evening filled with cultural displays, traditional foods, music, art, and performances from around the world.

Families and community members volunteered to host tables that showcased their heritage, offering students hands-on opportunities to explore global traditions. Children collected passport stamps as they visited each country, learning fascinating facts about geography, languages, and customs along the way.

“The World Fair allowed our students to see that our differences are what make us special,” said Lauren Barber, vice president of School Engagement. “They gained a deeper appreciation for other cultures, but they also took pride in sharing their own family traditions.”

A special thank you to the Daniel Island School PTA, the Daniel Island School Improvement Council, and all event volunteers for making this a night to remember.



Left: A trip Down Under! Students try their hand at an Australian blow-catch activity. Top right: DIS students document their discoveries at the World Fair stations. Bottom right: Learning holiday traditions from across the pond with English Christmas crackers.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DANIELLE LOFLAND  
From around the world to the North Pole!

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## Multifamily townhome development returns for city review

Multifamily townhome development returns for city review

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

### UPCOMING: DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

**Dec. 1: 606 Brooking Square Lane, Cainho** – Requesting preliminary approval for building 4 only. Other buildings to be submitted at a later time. TMS: 262-00-00-028. Owner: SLS Development, LLC Applicant: The Middleton Group/Karo Wheeler.

### UPCOMING: BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - ZONING

**Dec. 2: 714 Swan Dr. Cainho** – Request variance from Sec. 54-824 to allow lot frontage

for the subdivision of the property into two single-family residential lots to be less than required (63' and 0' proposed, 485' required). TMS: 263-00-04-026. Owner: Kimbrell Family Trust. Applicant: Maurice Wilder.

### UPCOMING: TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

**Dec. 4: Atlantic - St. Thomas Site Plan** – Proposed 71-unit multifamily townhome development on 7.28 acres at 2815 Clements Ferry Road, Cainho. TMS: B2710002169. Owner: MSP SRE LLC. Applicant: Sitecast, LLC. Contact: David Yowell, [dyowell@middlestreet.com](mailto:dyowell@middlestreet.com)

### RESULTS: PLANNING COMMISSION

**Nov. 19: 1526 Clements Ferry Road** – Request zoning to General Business on .38 acres, Cainho. TMS: 2680000043 Owner: Seven Sticks LLC. *Result: Approved 7-0.*

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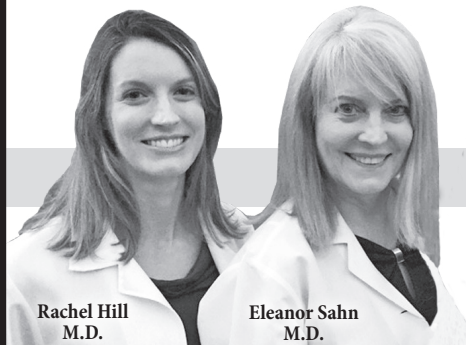


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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT AT SMYTHE

Thurs, Dec. 4, 4:30-7:45 pm, Smythe Park. Enjoy a festive evening as the DI School PTA and DICF present "The Santa Clause," including a reindeer station, crafts, and face painting. Movie starts at 6 pm. Food available from local vendors. Free.

### 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.

### HOLY CITY MESSIAH

Dec. 5, 7:30 pm, Saint Clare of Assisi Catholic Church. Celebrate the season with Handel's Messiah performed by the Charleston Symphony and guest soloists. Tickets available at charlestonsymphony.org/event/dimessiah2025/.

### ROCKIN' AROUND THE VILLAGE GREEN

Sat, Dec. 6, 3-6 pm, Point Hope Village Green. Celebrate the season with live music by Lady Jane, carolers, still walkers, face painting, snow showers, and a holiday market featuring local vendors. Tree lighting to close the event. Free and open to the public.

### OVERTURE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Sat, Dec. 6, 11 am-3 pm, Overture DI. Enjoy a festive day of artisan and craft vendors, plus a special visit from Santa and his elves, who will help kids write letters and spread holiday cheer. All are welcome.

### BARBIE & KEN'S HOLIDAY OF HEARTS: TOYS FOR TOTS

Sun, Dec. 7, 4-7:30 pm, New Realm Brewery or 880 Island Park Drive. Bring an unwrapped toy and support Toys for Tots South Carolina, held in memory of Charlie Peary. For details, contact Hart Peary at 202-360-9003 or Christina Coscia at 843-818-3488.

### DI GARDEN CLUB HOLIDAY BRUNCH

Dec. 10, 10:15 am, Mpishi. Enjoy a festive holiday brunch with the DI Garden Club. Cost is \$26.64 (includes entrée choice, beverage, tax, and tip). RSVP by Dec. 5 to Diane Mohler at demohler@hotmail.com.

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Fri, Dec. 12, 6-7:30 pm, Church of the Holy Spirit Courtyard. Enjoy an evening of Christmas carols featuring performers from the Daniel Island Music Academy, Daniel Island School, and church members. Warm drinks and treats available from a food truck. Free and open to all!

### 12TH ANNUAL DI CHANUKAH CELEBRATION & MENORAH LIGHTING

Wed, Dec. 17, 4:30-6 pm, DI Rec Center. Join the community for traditional food, music, and games. Candle lighting at 5:15 pm. Free and open to all faiths. Volunteers welcome; contact Matt Levin at levinml@gmail.com or Fred Danziger at fred.danziger13@gmail.com.

### 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** Craft-ernoons 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 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 Retirement Community theater, 514 Robert Daniel Dr., dixchange-club.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 Cainhoj 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 dicommunityyoga@gmail.com.

**YOGA** Yoga for all levels on Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 am. \$8. **RANDOM ACTS OF THE 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. raki2020@gmail.com

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



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## ALL'S FAIR

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil R. Manausa

### ACROSS

- 1 Unwanted e-mail
- 5 Flooded
- 10 Corp. treasurers
- 14 Earthenware jar
- 15 Hogwash!
- 16 Over 50 org.
- 17 Blonde
- 19 A coin to stop on
- 20 Leg joint
- 21 Be inclined to
- 22 Sketched
- 23 Longhorns
- 25 Radio interference
- 27 Uh-uh!
- 29 Arm's length
- 32 \_\_\_ and drum
- 35 Ultimatum
- 39 As well
- 40 Actress Lupino
- 41 Discounted
- 42 \_\_\_-Magnon
- 43 Flower garland
- 44 Drill sergeant's command
- 45 Molt
- 46 Stable moms
- 48 Screen or acid
- 50 Bakery goods
- 54 \_\_\_ the thought!
- 58 Wingspread

### DOWN

- 60 Rub across to dry
- 62 \_\_\_ ray
- 63 Glass lamina
- 64 Impartial
- 66 Gets one's goat
- 67 Remove the bonds
- 68 Dreadful
- 69 Avian abode
- 70 Loafed
- 71 Without
- 1 Divans and settees
- 2 Factory
- 3 Cast in the same mold
- 4 Ms. Dietrich
- 5 \_\_\_ moment's notice
- 6 \_\_\_ of habeas corpus
- 7 Buenos \_\_\_
- 8 Exhausted
- 9 Onetime gossip columnist Hopper
- 10 Golfer's helper
- 11 Kickoff receiver's choice
- 12 "Coffee, tea \_\_\_"
- 13 Gush out
- 18 Long sandwich
- 24 Part of a teapot

- 26 Shoe or family
- 28 Art Deco artist
- 30 Center
- 31 Parka part
- 32 Bygone camera medium
- 33 Thought
- 34 Swashbuckler Douglas
- 36 Pitcher's stat
- 37 Endure
- 38 Expensive
- 41 Project for a private eye
- 45 Seaside
- 47 Mr. Hemingway
- 49 Tractor-trailer
- 51 Appalling
- 52 Princess buried at Althorp
- 53 Pre-Phelps Olympic champion
- 55 World's second-largest democracy
- 56 Howard the shock jock
- 57 Hell
- 58 News slant
- 59 Remove rind
- 61 Part of HOMES
- 65 Pharmacopoeia abbreviation

## Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

### You're Invited to Fix These Sentences



Find the mistake or mistakes in these sentences.

- 1. There is a surprise party for Joe, this Saturday.
- 2. Can you come, I hope so!
- 3. The Stanton's are taking Joe to dinner first.
- 4. He will be vary surprised and a little embarrassed.

Answers: 1. No comma needed. 2. Needs to be two sentences. A question mark is needed after *come*. 3. No apostrophe needed for *Stantons*. 4. The word *vary* should be *very*.



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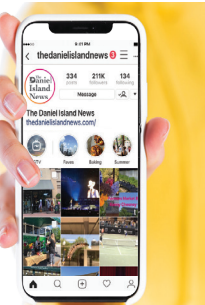
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I'm Ernie, a 4-year-old medium male Beagle mix.



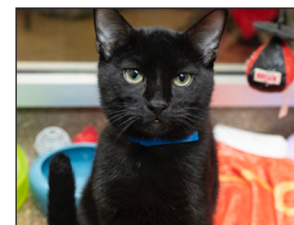
I'm Fizz, a 5-month-old medium female terrier mix.



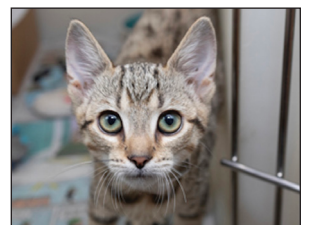
I'm Donkey From Shrek, a 2-year-old medium male terrier mix.



I'm Furrigie, a 1-year-old small female domestic short-hair mix.



I'm Pete Wentz, a 5-month-old small male domestic shorthair mix.



I'm Albus James, a 3-month-old small male domestic shorthair mix.



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