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The Daniel Island News

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February 10-16, 2022

Popping *the* Question



**COUPLES
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IN HONOR OF
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Doreen Sanderson
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Community rallies to help Philip Simmons family after house fire

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

It's one of the worst nightmares a family can endure: a fire races through a house, destroying everything a family has worked for or dreamed of, whether it's clothing, furniture or irreplaceable photos.

The Philip Simmons High School community recently experienced that harsh reality of life as one of the members of the football team and his family lost everything when a fire destroyed their home in Huger on Thursday, Feb. 3.

The varsity player is sophomore Devontay McNeil. He, along with his mother Tammy Myers, and her four other children lost everything when their home caught fire. The football team made it a mission to help their teammate and football family member, with coach Eric Bendig leading the charge.

"These types of things are never easy to type or request but I cannot imagine what the family is going through in these times," Bendig said. "I went through the process of moving, and everything, pictures, clothes and all the memorable things were boxed up. I can't imagine losing everything, especially things you can't replace. It is in



PROVIDED

Tammy Myers and two of her five children and a nephew proudly wear school colors and show their support for Philip Simmons. The school is showing support for the family, which recently lost everything in a house fire.

these times that we try to use our reach and resources to help out the family in any way



PROVIDED

Philip Simmons High School varsity football coach Eric Bendig is organizing a fundraiser for sophomore Devontay McNeil and his family.

Most importantly right now, this family is in need."

The football team and school are accepting donations at the high school front office for the family, and more than \$11,000 has been raised with more than 50 donations. Bendig and other coaches plan to make daily runs to help the family. There is also a GoFundMe page set up: gofund.me/073a9ef2.

we can. The best way I feel like I can help is share their need and hope that our family can come together to help this wonderful family try to recover from this terrible loss.

"This family means the world to me and the community," Bendig added.

me/073a9ef2.

Bendig, said the mother, Tammy, "is as selfless as they come."

"She never really posted or mentioned what she is in need of personally and it just speaks of her care for her wonderful children," Bendig said. "Through some of her close friends, I have gathered some info on her sizes and some other sizes for the children:

Here is a list of the other members of the family and their sizes:

- Girl size 24 months, age 2
- Boy size 7-8, shoe size 2
- Boy size 30, shoe size 9, age 13
- Boy size 34-32, shoe size 12, age 16
- Boy size 32-32, shoe size 11½, age 18

Tammy wears size 4 in pants, medium in shirts, and size 8 shoes.

"The family right now is trying to pick up the pieces as their home and possessions are at a total loss," Bendig said. "This is what we do when our family is in need and that is to try the best we can to help. Please help me support this wonderful family. Donations and prayers are appreciated."

To contribute, call Bendig at 843-471-2061 or email bendige@bcstdschools.net.

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Philip Simmons Elementary's Garland awarded civic achievement

MONICA KREBER

Special to The Daniel Island News

As a second grade teacher at Philip Simmons Elementary, Doretha Garland works to build a community within her classroom.

She particularly enjoys teaching social studies, and the second grade curriculum focuses on the United States of America. Garland has a way of being able to take her social studies lessons and make them relatable to her students. She teaches them what the flag means, what the country's symbols are, and the importance of recognizing those who serve their country.

Garland's ongoing commitment to civic responsibility has earned her a very special award on the state level from the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) organization.

The Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award was founded in 1899 to recognize teachers who stimulate interest in America's history, traditions, civic responsibility, flag



PROVIDED

Philip Simmons Elementary second-grade teacher Doretha Garland has been recognized for the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

etiquette and patriotism.

The VFW Department of South Carolina recognized Garland as the first-place winner in the Elementary School Teacher category for the award. She will be celebrated

at the VFW Department of South Carolina's upcoming conference in Columbia in February.

Garland has been teaching for over 30 years. She came to Philip Simmons Elementary the year it opened in 2016. She previously taught in the Columbia area before coming to Berkeley County. She studied early childhood education at Francis Marion University and received her master's in elementary education from Columbia College. She is National Board-certified and is currently in the board's maintenance of certification process.

She is a four-time Teacher of the Year recipient. She was Philip Simmons Elementary's inaugural Teacher of the Year, and also earned the title at three other elementary schools in Columbia.

Garland was nominated for the VFW award through three recommendation letters submitted by Principal Mike Huff, fellow teacher Tina McDonald, and a former colleague from Columbia.

Huff said Garland is a passionate teacher who makes a lasting impact on her students, and that her instructional practices promote collaboration, communication, adaptability and critical thinking among her students.

"She encourages them to take initiative in their own learning and continually advocates for their success," he said. "In addition to her classroom instruction, Ms. Garland serves as a role model to her students by instilling in them a sense of community, compassion, and helping others."

Garland said she was not aware of the VFW contest until she met her neighbor, Rex Brown, who is a veteran and serves as the Commander of VFW post 3137 on the Isle of Palms. Knowing how much Garland does for her students, Brown encouraged her to apply for the award. She won the local award last year. Garland subsequently won on the VFW District 1 level, and recently found out she won on

the state level.

"I was surprised and honored," she said.

The VFW recognized Garland for her innovative teaching style over the course of her career. She has held mock elections and council meetings with her students to raise awareness about current events. She teaches the U.S. Constitution and has allowed her students to help create classroom rules. Prior to the pandemic, Garland was active in inviting veterans to participate in school Veterans Day programs.

Garland helps her students learn the meaning behind the words of The Pledge of Allegiance, and she has always had a soft spot for military families.

Earlier this year, all of the second graders made cards for veterans, something that has always meant a lot to Garland.

"You never know how something like that is going to touch a veteran," she said.

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– David and Amy

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– Mike and Kristina

My wife and I had the pleasure of working with Angie Johnson on the recent sale of our condo on Daniel Island. The entire experience exceeded our expectations. First, Angie is extremely knowledgeable about the market and market conditions. She was able to coach us to list for a competitive price while maximizing our return. Second, the level of communications from Angie and her team is extraordinary! We never were left searching for answers about what was going on. She was extremely timely with updates and always set the right level of expectations about the next steps. Third, Angie and her entire team provide a fantastic level of customer service. They are all the type of folks you just want to do business with.

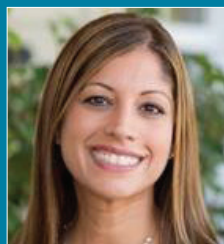
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General Information:
office 843.856-1999

225 Seven Farms Drive, Suite 108
Daniel Island, SC 29492

Publisher:

Suzanne M. Detar
843.345.1563

sdetar@thedanielislandnews.com

Editor:

Zach Giroux
802.733.6321

zach@thedanielislandnews.com

Ad Director:

Ronda Schilling
843.330.1981

ronda@thedanielislandnews.com

Graphic Designers:

Pamela Brownstein
pam@thedanielislandnews.com

Jan Marvin

jan@thedanielislandnews.com

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Chief of Police Reynolds shows courage, dignity

BY DOUG TREASURER

Daniel Island resident

There are few things in life more disconcerting than hearing the words, "You have cancer." While I have personally not yet had to confront that difficult news, I have witnessed that challenge with some of my own family members.



Luther Reynolds

This past fall, our Chief of Police, neighbor and friend, Luther Reynolds, was diagnosed with a very serious and rare form of cancer. Chief Reynolds was subsequently treated by some of the world's best surgeons at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. In order to remove the cancer, doctors had to amputate one of his legs. Thankfully, the cancer was successfully removed and the chief's prognosis for the future is very positive.

As with every other facet of his life and professional career, Chief Reynolds confronted the challenges of his cancer diagnosis and treatment with unwavering courage and dignity, characteristic of the many other positive examples he sets in life.

In addition to being our Chief of Police and serving in executive leadership roles on many law enforcement boards and commit-

tees, Chief Reynolds is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, a noteworthy accolade shared by few distinguished law enforcement leaders throughout the country. Depicted on the FBI Seal is the motto, "Fidelity, Bravery and Integrity." During my nearly three decades in law enforcement and related vocations, I have never met an individual more emblematic of these virtues. He is a leader who thoughtfully and keenly listens to all voices within the community he protects. More importantly, he hears those voices and takes constructive action to serve the betterment of each and every citizen. Chief Reynolds looks forward to retaking the helm of our valiant police department in the near future.

If his eyes happen to spot this article, Chief Reynolds will undoubtedly react with discomfort and unease, as his has been a life spent selflessly devoted to serving others rather than himself. However, I would remain remiss if I did not ask you to keep Chief Reynolds and his family in your thoughts and prayers, as they return home from Minnesota.

For those who are interested and able, a GoFundMe page has been established to help the Reynolds family with the mounting non-covered expenses associated with the chief's care. To learn more, please visit gofundme.com and search "Friends of Chief Luther Reynolds."

UPCOMING AUTHOR EVENTS

The Daniel Island News is hosting the following local authors as part of the paper's monthly Author Series:

• Feb. 23: Gordon Rhea ("Stephen A. Swails: Black Freedom Fighter in the Civil War and Reconstruction") and Herb Frazier ("Ukweli: Searching for Healing Truth") with essayist Margaret Seidler and poet James Brailsford will present their new books, followed by discussion, Q&A and a book signing, 7 p.m. at Daniel Pointe. Free and open to the public. Sign up in advance at eventbrite.com/e/daniel-island-news-monthly-author-series-february-23-event-tickets-258022410977

• March 30: Cassandra King Conroy will discuss "Tell Me a Story: My Life with Pat Conroy" and Virginia Beach will present her new book "American Landmark: Charles Duell and the Rebirth of Middleton Place." 1 p.m. at Meyer Vogl Gallery on Daniel Island.

• April 27: Bestselling fiction writers Katherine Reay ("The London House") and Charleston's Gervais Hagerty ("In Polite Company"). Time and location to be announced soon.

• May 25: Kathryn Smith ("Baptists & Bootleggers: A Prohibition Expedition Through the South... with Cocktail Recipes") and a second author TBD.

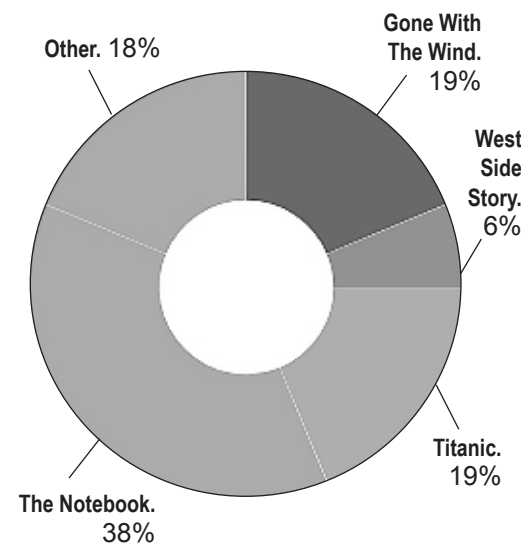
• June 29: Books & Bites: New York Times bestseller Mary Alice Monroe with Angela May will talk about their new book "Search for Treasure" at a ticketed event at the Daniel Island Club.

This series is sponsored by the Daniel Island Community Fund and Publish, Inc.



Readers speak out on romantic movies

A recent survey by career-counseling website zippia.com for Valentine's Day found that "Gone with the Wind" was South Carolina's favorite romantic movie. Which of these movies do you think should have been selected?



NOTE: Choices "Before Sunset" or "The Shape of Water" received no votes.

COMMENTS:

- "Casablanca" and "Waterloo Bridge" ... especially "Waterloo Bridge"!
- "Charade"
- "Forrest Gump," filmed in Beaufort
- "Bull Durham"! Need I say more?

NEXT WEEK: SPOLETO FESTIVAL COVID VACCINE REQUIREMENTS

Recently, the Spoleto Festival USA, Charleston's 17-day performing arts festival, announced it would require all audience members, staff, volunteers



and performers to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination, including booster shots for those who are eligible. It will not offer the option of showing proof of a

negative COVID-19 test ahead of the event. Should more events follow this protocol or is it too restrictive? Share your thoughts online at surveyMonkey.com/r/Spoleto_Vaccine_Required or use the QR code by Sunday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m.

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 843.557.3537



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news BRIEFS

BERKELEY COUNTY TO PRESENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Berkeley County will host its final set of public meetings for the One Berkeley Comprehensive Plan update on Thursday, Feb. 17. Meetings will be a drop-in style format from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the following locations:

- Berkeley County Administration Building: 1003 N. Highway 52, Moncks Corner, SC, 29461
- Timberland High School (Cafeteria): 1418 Gravel Hill Road, St. Stephen, SC, 29479
- Philip Simmons Elementary School: 2095 Seven Sticks Drive, Wando, SC, 29492
- Cross Elementary School (Multi-Purpose Room): 1325 Ranger Drive, Cross, SC 29436

At the meetings, the One Berkeley Comprehensive Plan team will share a number of scenarios regarding how the county could grow in the future. After months of study, analysis and public input, it is critical that residents provide feedback on the preferred path forward and help shape their county's future. Presentations on the scenarios will take place at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. at each location. For those who wish to participate virtually, the presentations will take place simultaneously via Zoom.

Each of the growth scenarios demonstrates how the development of land uses in different pat-

terns impact the efficiency and costs of providing services and deployment of infrastructure.

The One Berkeley Comprehensive Plan update is an opportunity for residents to create a roadmap for the county's future. The Comprehensive Plan is updated every 10 years and reinforces a county-wide vision for things like housing, economic development, transportation and much more.

For more information or to attend virtually, visit OneBerkeley2020.com.

SOUTHSTATE NAMES KEVIN BROOKES TOP SC MORTGAGE BANKER

For the sixth consecutive year, Kevin Brookes, senior vice president and mortgage banker, earned "No. 1 Mortgage Loan Officer" in South Carolina at SouthState Bank.

The honor comes as the result of an internal rating based on loan volume. In 2021, Brookes successfully closed 177 real estate transactions totaling \$140 million.

Located on Daniel Island, he has 27 years of experience as a mortgage banker and specializes in jumbo loans, construction loans, lot loans, physician loans, refinances, renovation loans and assisting buyers with their first home purchase.

— Compiled by Zach Giroux, zach@thedanielislandnews.com

ART GALLERY OPENING

PROVIDED

A small reception was held on the evening of January 20 to officially cut the ribbon on the Meyer Vogl Gallery. Family and friends gathered to celebrate the new addition of the gallery on Daniel Island. Pictured left to right is Rep. Mark Smith, Jessica Sokol, Debbie Kelley, Molly Clisham, Marissa Vogl, Laurie Meyer, Katie Geer, Mark Smith, Ryan Smith, Grace Meyer and Diana Roller. The gallery is located at 250 River Landing Drive. It is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit meyervogl.com.

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'A WEIGHTY PRIVILEGE'

International African American Museum president and CEO reflects on role

ELIZABETH BUSH

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

It's not an easy load to bear. Tell the story of the African American journey in the United States from the beginning. The whole story. In a way that sensitively exposes the truth of the darkness of slavery, but also celebrates the resilience and achievements of a people determined to rise above their circumstances to find hope and joy.

When Dr. Tonya Matthews accepted the role of president/CEO of the new, highly anticipated Charleston International African American Museum (IAAM) in March of 2021, she knew the task would be monumental.

"I like to call it a weighty privilege," said Matthews. "... Even when the idea was first circulating, it was just an extraordinary idea,



PROVIDED

Dr. Tonya Matthews, president/CEO of the International African American Museum, will speak about the museum at a special program hosted by the Daniel Island Historical Society on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7-8 p.m. at Church of the Holy Cross on Daniel Island, 299 Seven Farms Drive.

such a big idea, such a heavy lift. You want a place like Charleston. It was growing and in its own kind of rebirth and renaissance, and you



PEI COBB FREED & PARTNERS/MOODY NOLAN

This rendering shows the view of the International African American Museum from the Cooper River.

want it to fit into all of that ... but it's also a national museum ... and then, you want to tell the full story. You want to put it in the international context because Charleston is an international city. African American history is an international tale — and you want to do all of that in 100,000 square feet."

A press release issued by the

IAAM announcing Matthews' appointment to the museum's executive team called her "the final piece" of a "massive global project that will change the landscape of African American history and its curation." A Washington D.C. native, Matthews is a thought leader with a proven track record in organizational leadership, strategic

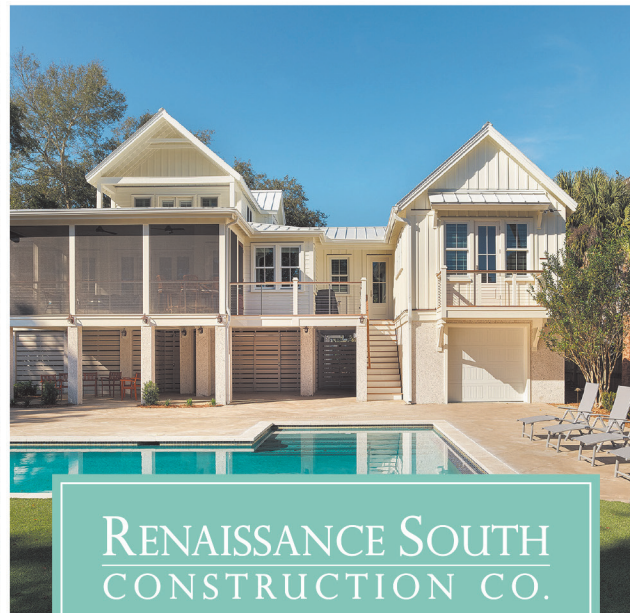
planning, diversity and inclusion, program development, project management, and vast visitor and community engagement programs. Before joining the IAAM, she served as associate provost of inclusive workforce development and director of the STEM Innovation Learning Center at Wayne State University in Detroit.

The months that have followed her arrival in Charleston last year have been "a whirlwind," said Matthews, as visions of both the structure and design of the IAAM facility, as well as its exhibits and features, are coming to fruition after more than two decades of planning.

"We are finally at the space where all of our different timelines and all of our processes are finally coming together," she added.

See **MUSEUM** on **PAGE 11**

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IAAM scheduled to open later this year

From MUSEUM on PAGE 10

With more than \$100 million in donations and some 20,000 charter members already on board, the IAAM is on track to be completed and opened later this year.

“We are still in that space of building the plane while flying,” said Matthews. “Everything is happening!”

The location selected for the museum is Gadsden’s Wharf on the Charleston Harbor, where thousands of enslaved men, women and children first arrived in South Carolina as part of the transatlantic slave trade more than 200 years ago. When the doors of the IAAM open, they will be ready, as the museum’s mission states, to “honor the untold stories of the African American journey at one of the country’s most sacred sites.”

“I know a lot of folks look at this story with an appropriate amount of grief and reverence,” said Matthews. “But I want to acknowledge how far we’ve come,

that we’re willing to speak the name of this space, that we’re willing to say Gadsden’s Wharf, and this is what this place was.”

“We decided to pause and name the space, to name the tragedy,” she continued. “... But in doing this, it becomes a space of joy and reclamation.”

In an intentional and symbolic gesture, the physical building is elevated over the site and does not sit on the ground itself. Other design elements include honoring the water and those who made the “Middle Passage” by offering an infinity pool for reflection and opening up views of the harbor.

“You’ve got artistic illustrations that talk about the weight and the heaviness and the horror of that site,” added Matthews. “.. But then you’ve also got elements that talk about the life, the joy and the resilience of the space, such as our ethno-botanical gardens and our Maya Angelo inscription ‘And still

IF YOU GO

What: “Behind-the-scenes” at the International African American Museum with guest speaker Dr. Tonya Matthews, IAAM president/CEO
When: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7-8 p.m.

Where: Church of the Holy Cross Parish Hall, 299 Seven Farms Drive, Daniel Island
Details: Learn about the museum’s timeline for completion, the inspiration behind its design, the exhibits it will feature, and more. Hosted by the Daniel Island Historical Society. Free. All are welcome. For more information, visit dihistoricalsociety.com.

I rise.”

Matthews is both humbled and lifted by the range of support the IAAM has received thus far. She hopes the facility will prompt visitors to ask more questions and continue to educate themselves about the African American experience, especially in light of



PHOTOS BY PEI COBB FREED & PARTNERS/MOODY NOLAN

Above: View of the “Tide Tribute” in the African Ancestors Memorial Garden looking out on the Cooper River during low tide.

Below: The IAAM is pictured in a nighttime rendering of the facility



kind of a dreamscape for an organization to come up like this. I’m really excited and really motivated to get (it) open and to get it done right — and well.”

On opening day, Matthews said her first thought will be about her mother, who will be at her side for the festivities, and knowing she has made her proud.

“My second thought will be, ‘Great! It’s built! Now we’ve got work to do.’”

today’s conversations about race.

“No one can deny that right now is an incredible time,” she said.

“... This renewed interest in ‘OK, history, tell us what we missed’ is

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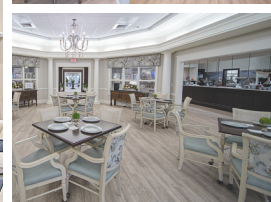
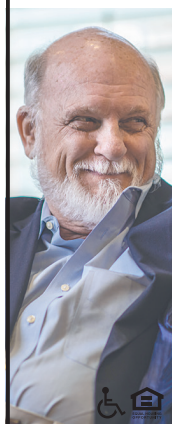
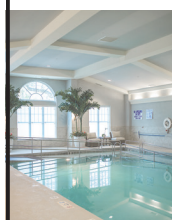
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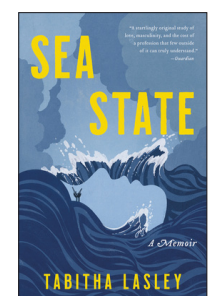
Furnish your nightstand with February reads



read all
about it

BECKY BECHHOLD

In her 30s, journalist Tabitha Lasley decided to leave her London gig and bad relationship and go to Scotland to write about the offshore drilling culture. She ended up



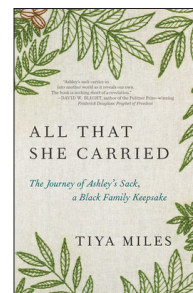
in a worse relationship but did manage to write about the lives of the men, and a few women, who live the arduous life of offshore work. **“Sea State”** is labeled as a memoir and her personal decisions frustrated me but I was fascinated by the

life of the oil workers.

“Assembly” by Natasha Brown is a brief, searing, flash bomb of a book. With precise phrasing, Brown looks at race, class, and how we assemble a life to outside expectations. Excellent for discussion.

“New York, My Village” by Uwem Akpan is a more challenging read. The Nigerian author gets a bit lost in his own story line at times, but his presentation of the New York book world is telling and the running backstory of bedbugs in a NYC subplot will have you laughing and itching simultaneously.

“All That She Carried” by Tiya Miles is a scholarly yet readable work that won the National Book Award. Miles tells the story of Ashley’s sack — a modest cloth bag originally given by a mother to her daughter who was being sold away from her family in slavery. Miles uses historical documentation to tell the poignant, intimate story of the enslaved people. This story originated in Charleston. I urge everyone to read this remarkable book.



“Small Things Like These” by Claire

Keegan is set in a small town in Ireland in 1985 when the Catholic laundries still existed to house (read punish) girls who became pregnant out of wedlock. Bill Furlong is witness to the conditions as he delivers coal to the nuns. This book is quietly uplifting.



If you are looking for thrillers/mystery choices, here are a few:

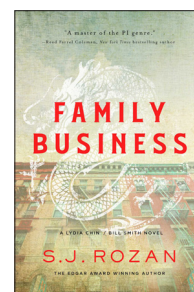
“Never Saw me Coming” by Vera Kurlan involves sociopathic college students



looking for a killer on campus and wondering which of them it may be.

perpetrators but not all. A satisfying ending with a dangling moral issue.

“Family Business” by S.J. Rozan is a thriller set in NYC’s Chinatown. This is part of the Lydia Chin/Bill Smith PI series, though the first I have read.



Fast paced and breezy, but the descriptions of the food will have you ordering out. Family machinations are entertaining in all cultures, these come with a dead body.

“The Replacement Wife” by Darby Kane will make a great Netflix movie. The protagonist is recovering from a trauma and can’t seem to clear her head but she knows something is amiss. Why won’t anyone listen to her? A twisty revenge story.

And for all of you William Kreuger Smith fans, **“The Incredible Winston Browne”** by Sean Dietrich is a nostalgic charmer set in small town Florida in the 1950s.

Go to beckysbookclub.com to see all past articles and more reviews.



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Popping the Question

DI couples discuss engagement proposals in honor of Valentine's Day

ZACH GIROUX | ZACH@THEDANIELISLANDNEWS.COM

Everybody knows the romantic colloquialism “popping the question” refers to asking for your significant other’s hand in marriage. It’s understood that the merchandise goes on the left hand’s ring finger. Albeit, there are a myriad of ways, both conventional and unorthodox, to propose.

There are no rules of engagement or a strict code on how to ask your best friend to marry you. When it comes to a matter of the heart, any such proverbial handbook gets thrown out the window.

Love doesn’t need a reason or a season; however, romance is most certainly on display throughout the month of February. Valentine’s Day is far more than it’s advertised to be.

Feb. 14 is more than just a card with a box of chocolates, a bouquet of flowers or little heart-shaped candies that say “Be Mine.” It’s a day for lovers to reminisce about how they fell in love in the first place.

In honor of the romance holiday, the following vignettes entail the romantic escapades of how several Daniel Island couples got engaged. As well as romance advice from a local matchmaker who has personally played the role of cupid and has helped many partners find their forever love.



ROCKSTAR LOVERS

Mike and Angela Mead are not your typical Midwestern couple from Illinois. Mike is a consultant and Angela is a middle school teacher who teaches seventh grade at the Daniel Island School.

The two moved to Daniel Island six years ago, but their love story started in the Windy City back when they were young professionals.

At the time, Angela was teaching and attending graduate school in downtown Chicago. She was also the lead singer in a cover rock band.

One winter, Angela and her band were playing at a bar in Wrigleyville, near where the Chicago Cubs play. Mike was friends with Angela’s friends. He was also her biggest fan.

After two years of dating, Mike decided it was time to up the ante. It was Angela’s birthday weekend and the couple was doing a staycation downtown.

After a day of playing tourist in their own city, they walked down by the lakefront to Millennium Park to see Cloud Gate, commonly referred to as “The Bean.”



Daniel Island residents Mike and Angela Mead started their love story in Chicago.



CROSS COUNTRY LOVE



Adam Miller and Kelli Kimball are expecting great things in 2022.

Adam Miller and Kelli Kimball’s love spans from coast to coast — literally. The couple is originally from Washington state and lived in Seattle their entire lives before moving to Daniel Island last December.

Adam works for Amazon and Kelli works remotely for a chemical distribution company. After dating for just two years at the time, they decided to uproot their lives in the Pacific Northwest.

Last February, the couple agreed that it was time for a change of scenery and packed up their belongings and hit the road for a six-month-long cross-country excursion. The adventuresome lovebirds have been to nearly every state in the United States, with the exception of five in the Northeast.

While on the open road, Adam gave Kelli a bottle with daily messages

inside. She was instructed to open one every day and read aloud the reason why he loved her.

Six months later, at the end of the road trip, the couple hosted a going away party with 40 of their closest friends. It was a day that would change both of their lives forever for two very different reasons.

Adam asked Kelli to go for a walk down to their favorite beach. He told her that she still had one more message left to open. It read: “Will you marry me?”

The surprise wasn’t over yet. There was still quite a bit of shock value left.

Kelli had a gift in the form of a card for Adam to open. He was utterly bewildered. Adam opened the card and soon found out that he was going to be a father. Kelli discovered that she was pregnant the day before the proposal. The timing was serendipitous.

After getting settled on Daniel Island just two months ago, the couple had a private gender reveal on the lawn at Waterfront Park. Adam hit a golf ball that was filled with pink powder.

Their baby girl is due this July. The couple decided to postpone their wedding until 2023 so their little girl can be their flower girl. They’re still not sure what coast they want to have it on.

Shortly thereafter, Mike got down on one knee and needless to say it wasn’t to tie his shoelaces. He had asked Angela to take his hand in marriage.

After rejoicing in the moment, Angela looked over and saw a section of bistro-type tables and standing there was another couple in their friend group. One of which was a professional photographer who had captured the entire moment on camera from start to finish.

That evening, the newly engaged couple went out to

dinner at the same restaurant where they shared their first date.

The couple went on to get married at The Rookery, a historic building co-designed by famous American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. The honeymoon was in Hawaii, specifically Maui.

The Meads have been married for 15 years and counting. Unfortunately, not long after the engagement, Angela’s rock band dissolved. She blames Mike for giving her a lifetime of happiness.

WEATHERPROOF LOVE

Dave and Amy Florez are a naturally lucky pair. They say it’s good luck if it rains on your wedding day, but for them it rained nonstop on their engagement day.

Amy is from the Palmetto State and Dave is from Ohio. Amy is an interior designer and Dave is a technician.

It was a late spring afternoon and the sky had opened up. It was raining incessantly.

The weather conditions were not ideal for a lunch date at the picturesque Pitt Street Bridge in Mount Pleasant. It was their special spot to take walks or sit and admire the canvas of the Lowcountry.

Dave had arranged for Amy to meet him on their lunch break at a bench by the bridge. This was no longer feasible due to the torrential downpour.

The two waited in their cars for the rain to stop but it never did let up. So Amy ran over and jumped into Dave’s car to weather the storm together. Little did she know they soon would be spending the rest of their lives together.

At that moment, Dave got down on one knee in the kneewell of the car and asked to marry her. This was only part one of a two-part engagement. Part two was a gift that was draped over the backseat of his car.

Amy unwrapped the gift. Inside was a cocktail dress. She had a puzzled look on her face.

Dave informed her that it was for tomorrow night’s dinner — in New York City. The bags were packed, the tickets were booked and the flight was leaving in just a few short hours.

Fortunately, the couple got engaged on a Friday, so no sick days from work needed to be taken for the spontaneous trip. The dinner was at Le Bernardin, a swanky French seafood restaurant in the heart of The Big Apple.

The following March, the couple got married at the Daniel Island Club. The honeymoon was a tropical destination to the Riviera Maya in Mexico.

The couple has lived on Daniel Island for seven years. The Florezes got engaged in 2008 and are getting ready to celebrate their 13th wedding anniversary.



Dave and Amy Florez didn’t let a rain storm ruin their engagement.



ROMANTIC ADVICE

Local matchmaker Buffie Bell Lilly, who owns Charleston Wine Pairings, a dating agency that offers a personalized approach for those who are ready for a serious relationship, has successfully paired 34 couples that have gone on to get married. The following bullet points are her advice on love whether you’re newly married or have been hitched for many moons:

- Never stop dating: Never stop planning date nights and going out on the town.
- Keep it fresh and fun: Never stop being silly with your significant other.
- There is a difference between love at first sight and lust at first sight.
- Soulmates do exist, but all successful relationships require equal work from each partner.
- There is a difference between loving your significant other and being in love with them.

To hear from “Charleston’s Hitch” yourself, visit charlestonwinepairings.com or visit their Instagram @charlestonwinepairings.

'Not So' Happy Valentine's Day fundraiser benefits animal shelter

PAMELA BROWNSTEIN
pam@thedanielislandnews.com

"Do you know what's worse than a room full of litter boxes? Exes!

Dumped? Ghosted? Cheated on? Let our frisky felines make you smile this Valentine's."

This is the description of Berkeley County Animal Center's "Not So" Happy Valentine's Day fundraiser that lets people donate \$5 to write the name of an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend in a litter pan on Monday, Feb. 14, while the cats do the rest.

The initiative sparked interest on Facebook, with hundreds of shares and many comments. One woman wrote: "Oh, I have the name of an ex-husband the kitties can poop all over!"

Tiffany Hoffman, event coordinator at the animal center, was surprised by how the idea has taken off — gaining widespread media coverage — but she's glad that it's helping bring attention to the animals and the work being done at the shelter.

"We'll do anything to promote our amaz-



PROVIDED

For a \$5 donation to the Berkeley Animal Center, you can put the name of an ex in a litter pan, and let the felines do the rest.

ing animals and find them loving homes," she said.

Hoffman said oftentimes kittens and cats don't get as much attention as the dogs, since they can't go out to community events, so

this fundraiser puts the cats in the spotlight. "Honestly, everybody needs to laugh, and the truth is not everybody likes Valentine's Day," she added.

The idea to let cats soil an ex-lover's good name originally started a few years back at a shelter in Kentucky, according to Hoffman. With the completion of the new facility in Moncks Corner last year, the Berkeley Animal Center staff thought this would be an opportune time to hold a similar fundraiser of their own.

With only 10 full-time employees, the dedicated crew at the animal shelter understands the value of hard work and having to do more with less. "We think outside the box — no pun intended," Hoffman said. Hosting this fun and inexpensive event seemed like a no-brainer.

Simply put, "It's for people who have a good sense of humor and want to support the shelter," Hoffman said.

The animal shelter uses cardboard boxes for litter pans, so they plan to write the names in marker on the cardboard boxes.

The kitty fundraiser is being held in con-

junction with the shelter's "Sit, Stay, Speed Date" event for dog lovers on Saturday, Feb. 12, from 1-3 p.m. Attendees to the dog speed-dating event can meet dogs, enjoy treats from Delicious Ditty's Donuts & Coffee Food Truck, and watch the cats have a disco dance party in tutus in the Free Roaming Cat Room.

Use berkeleyanimalcenter.org to donate \$5 to the cat fundraiser. Under "Reason For Donation," write your ex's name. For \$25, you can sponsor a whole litter box and submit as many names as you want. Relieving yourself of the burden of your exes while the animals relieve themselves sounds like it benefits all involved.

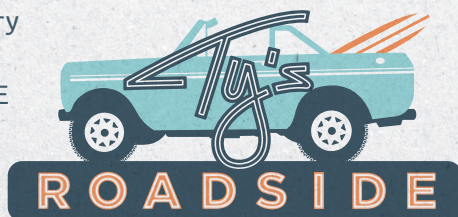
The Berkeley Animal Center facility is located at 131 Central Berkeley Drive in Moncks Corner.



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Rivers nets 1,000th point for Lady Iron Horses

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

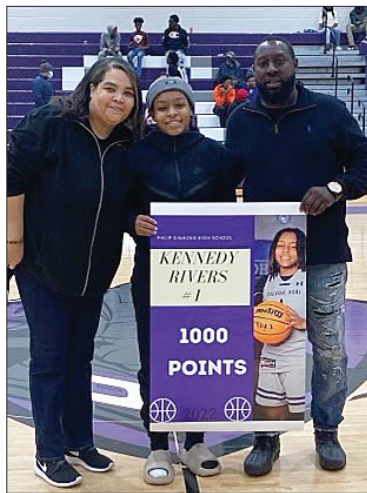
Kennedy Rivers remembers the first time she played in a basketball game as a member of the Philip Simmons High School girls' varsity team.

She was in the seventh grade that night, and the Iron Horses played Socastee, a team that featured a tall and experienced lineup. Kennedy scored two points.

"I wanted to quit," Kennedy said. It's a good thing she didn't.

Since that game, she has become one of the Iron Horses' best players in the program's brief history. She earned all-region and all-state honors last winter, and scored the 1,000th point of her impressive career on Jan. 14 when she hit a mid-range jumper against Timberland in a 44-43 loss.

"Scoring that basket to reach



PROVIDED

Philip Simmons senior point guard Kennedy Rivers, with her parents Tarsha and Kevin, scored her 1,000th point of her high school career against Timberland on Jan. 14.

1,000 points was unbelievable,"

Kennedy said. "I'm just happy that

I stuck with it and was able to reach 1,000 points."

Kennedy was one of three seventh-graders who formed an impressive nucleus that coach Dustin Williams built the program around back in the early days. The other impressive seventh-graders were Kylee Kellermann and Zhaire Mack. The trio has helped the program become one of the best Class AA teams in the Palmetto State.

Coach Dustin Williams watched as Kennedy developed into a promising player.

"To see her progression, her development has been interesting," said Williams, whose team began play this week with a 12-3 record, including 6-2 in Region 6-AA. "She's developed into a talented player who took her lumps early on and grew from there. She found her rhythm her freshman year and has

taken off."

Rivers had a stellar season last winter as a sophomore to earn all-state honors. She averaged 17.1 points, 2.6 assists and 2.3 steals per game to help the Iron Horses post a 10-3 record during a season that was abbreviated by the Covid-19 pandemic. The team won two play-off games before losing to eventual Lower State champ Silver Bluff.

This year, it's been more of the same for Rivers who is expected to repeat as an all-state selection. She is averaging 15.6 points, while averaging 3.9 steals and 3.9 rebounds.

Rivers was the second of the Iron Horses to reach 1,000 career points this season. Kellermann reached the milestone earlier in the season, but suffered a season-ending knee injury soon after.

"We're best buddies," Rivers said of her friendship with Keller-

mann. "We've been playing basketball together since the fifth grade.

The Iron Horses had a five-game winning streak entering play this week. Timberland led the region with a 7-1 conference mark while the Iron Horses were 6-2 with two league games remaining. The Iron Horses were scheduled to play Ridgeland/Hardeeville at home on Feb. 8 and were scheduled to close out the regular season Thursday with a home game against Woodland.

The playoffs loom, and Rivers will be ready for postseason — and next season.

She has the potential to play at the college level.

"Her offense is there," Williams said of Kennedy. "She needs to improve her defense at the other end. She just has to find a school where she fits in."

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Lady Bishops lay claim to another region title

PHILIP M. BOWMAN
sports@thedanielislandnews.com

Were those cracks in the foundation of the Bishop England girls' basketball juggernaut at the beginning of the 2021-22 season?

The Bishops didn't exactly stumble and bumble out of the gate, but they did lose five of their first 10 games. While a .500 winning percentage isn't anything to discount, the Bishops have been used to more gaudy records. After all, coach Paul Runey's teams lost only 21 times in 257 games, winning six state titles from the 2011-12 season through last season.

Runey didn't panic or lose faith as the Bishops prepared for the Region 8-AAA portion of their schedule this winter. They responded with 10 victories in 11 games, including eight in a row to win yet another Region 8-AAA title.

"I knew we played some very good teams to get us ready for region play," said Runey, who picked up his 750th career victory last month. "We played some tough teams: Philip Simmons twice, Wando, Cane Bay, Military Magnet and a couple of out-of-state teams. Playing a schedule like that helps you get

ready for region."

The Bishops were more than ready as they owned a 15-6 record, including 9-0 in Region 8-AAA, heading into Feb. 8's season and region finale against Hanahan. The Bishops blasted Hanahan 69-11 last month, and hoped to complete the sweep. A victory over the Hawks will give BE a 120-game region winning streak.

The Bishops will be rewarded with a No. 1 seed in the Lower State, and will get a handful of days to rest and recuperate from the regular-season. The Bishops will not play their first tournament game until Feb. 17.

IRON HORSES BOYS' BASKETBALL

The Philip Simmons boys' team, meanwhile, could be a tad busier in its attempt to clinch the Region 6-AA title. The Iron Horses host Woodland on Feb. 10 and need a victory to clinch the championship. If the Iron Horses don't close the deal then, they will battle Woodland again the following day in a play-in game for all the 6-AA marbles.

"We want to win Thursday's game, because wrapping up with a championship on Thursday will put a bow on our season," said

Philip Simmons coach Garrett Campbell, whose team began the week with a 21-3 record, 8-0 in the league. "We've been ranked in the top 10 all year and a win Thursday would allow us to go undefeated in the region. It's been a special season, and we want to continue it that way."

PLAYOFF GAMES

Welcome to the final week of the regular season for schools around the Palmetto State that have dreams of March Madness on their collective minds.

It's been a year of success, hesitation and pause because of the COVID-19 issue. Now, it's time to find out who is the best in South Carolina.

All four area teams have qualified for the playoffs.

The Iron Horse girls begin play this week at 12-3, including 6-2 in Region 6-AA. The Iron Horse girls are in second place in the league with leader Timberland owning a 6-1 record in conference play.

The Bishop England boys 13-12 and held down third place in Region 8-AAA with a 6-3 record.



JEEP MCCABE

Bishop England senior guard Ally Dominiak drives to the basket en route to an 81-21 victory against North Charleston on Feb. 4.



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Winter fishing is no walk on the dock



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Late winter can be a tough time to fish. The water is cold, and a frigid wind is ever-present. It is an uncomfortable time for fish, anglers and fish-finding dogs.

However, last week, Mother Nature gave us a bit of a break. Conditions were sunny and warm. I asked Brody if he wanted to go fishing. He immediately ran down the dock and jumped in the skiff. I figured that meant yes.

After launching the boat, we drifted with the outgoing tide and enjoyed the sunshine. The water was clear, and we spotted a school of redfish cruising along the shore. I deployed the trolling motor and slowly moved the skiff into casting range. The redfish were not particularly large but there were a lot of them.

Not wanting to spook the school, I cast a Z-Man Finesse TRD on a 1/6-ounce NedLockZ jig well ahead of the reds and let it sit. As the school passed the lure, one of them ate it. The fight was quick because the fish was small. When I landed the redfish, Brody seemed a bit confused. He examined the fish closely. It looked like a redfish but only smaller.

For the next hour or so, we caught a small redfish on nearly every cast. The fish were still biting when Brody lost interest and decided to take a nap. I took this as



PROVIDED

Brody, the amazing fish-finding and stock-trading dog, examines a small redfish.

For the next hour or so, we caught a small redfish on nearly every cast.

my queue to stop fishing.

Rather than go home, we resumed drifting with the current and enjoying the sunshine. I thought to myself, this late winter fishing is not so bad. Not bad at all.

Contact Captain Peralta at captgregp@gmail.com or call 843-224-0099.



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My Olympic moment

ROB PREIDITSCH

Special to The Daniel Island News

Every two years since I've been a child, my heart has jumped with passion and excitement at the vision of the lone athlete holding the flaming torch and lighting a cauldron to mark the start of the Olympic Games. I have a deep respect for the Olympic tradition which has evolved around the games both in our culture and around the world. I love sports so much I received a master's degree in sports administration. Upon reading this my wife will ask: "How is that degree serving you these days, Hon?" Not so much today in the real estate world, but every once in a while I jump at the opportunity to talk about the Olympics!

My Olympic torch was lit at an early age as a 6-year-old watching the 1976 Summer Olympics and the 1988 Winter Olympics in my home country of Canada. I felt the enthusiasm as a host country and the pride introducing the world to our culture. I was captivated by the stories of athletes across the world who faced trials overcoming adversity or tragedy or forced to make sacri-

fices of extreme commitment for the chance to accomplish their goals.

While I competed in track and field, in college my Olympics dream of competing never came true, but I did land a great job with the Canadian Olympic delegation during the 1996 Atlanta Games. It was one of the greatest experiences and I met friends for life. The daily energy around the buildup and execution of the games is incredible! The Olympics motto is "*Citius, Altius, Fortius*," translated as faster, higher, stronger. While I was able to witness daily awe inspiring athletic performances at the Games I also noticed these performances in turn inspired everyday people to do a good deed faster, have a higher degree of patience and a stronger desire to help learn about their fellow human beings.

One example is from my peers on the team just coming off the Lillehammer, Norway, Winter Olympics. They told me about the charm and hospitality of the snowy little Nordic village and how they met a random Norwegian family who invited them to share a meal together and taught them all about



PROVIDED

This newspaper clipping shows Rob Preiditsch as a ticket-event coordinator for the Canadian Olympic Association at the Summer Olympic games in Atlanta in 1996.

their culture. They called these "Olympic Moments." "Don't worry, you'll have many Olympic moments," I was told.

I enjoyed many "Olympic Moments," but probably the best was meeting a guy named Jim, a fellow Canadian who blew me away with his hospitality, positivity and passion for sports. He lived the Olympic motto in spirit. I happened to have a few diving tickets and asked him if he wanted to go with me and soon a friendship was born. Turns out Jim had one of the largest collections of Olympic memorabilia outside the Olympic museum in Lausanne — including a torch from every games' relay.

A few years later, I got a call from Jim and he said if I could get to Salt Lake City for the

games, he had some tickets. After flying in, I learned my favorite band "The Tragically Hip" were playing at the University of Utah for the Canadian team. With no rental car available, I hitchhiked and was picked up by a kind Mormon girl about my age. Up until that time I had only heard stereotypes of Mormons. I had an incredible conversation with her about her faith and the people in Utah. I came away with a greater appreciation and understanding of a unique culture — another Olympic Moment. Jim and I went on to watch the entire hockey medal round and sit beside the bench on the glass in the gold medal final and meet all my hockey heroes including Wayne Gretzky.

I've continued to follow every Olympics — including the 2008 Beijing Games when I volunteered to pull night duty feeding my newborn daughter, while shedding tears watching examples of cross border fair play and sportsmanship. And I confess I sometimes parade around the house in my old Olympic clothing, blasting the Olympic anthem while holding a faux torch.

Yet, I can't stop thinking about how every game presents the opportunity to transform people by bringing human kind together in cultural understanding through sports.

My question is, how will these games transform you? *Citius, Altius, Fortius* I hope!

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Patrick Fillippa with his family

Patrick Fillippa won the NFL Championship Pick'em round with an 8-4 record. He topped law firm sponsor Mingledorff and Patterson, who posted a 5-5 record.

Fillippa is originally from Pittsburgh, and headed south in

2004 to be closer to his family. He is married with two boys and resides on Daniel Island.

"I enjoy spending time with my family, a fan of all things sports (especially ice hockey), as well as music, primarily rock/blues," he wrote via email.


This is the last week to play the football contest this year — it's Super Bowl weekend! This week you face off against The Daniel Island News' sportswriter Phil Bowman. To be eligible to win, you must select your entries online by noon on Friday.

There is no cost to enter. This week will also determine the sponsor champion. The paper will donate \$500 to the charity of choice to the sponsor who has the best overall win-loss record at the end of this week's contest.




MARY PATTERSON
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QUARTERMASTER PROPERTIES



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155-92

BALLOT:
For the week of February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP
Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Stafford**
Leading rusher: **Akers**
Leading receiver: **Kupp**
Leading tackler: **Wilson**
Leading sacker: **Donald**
First kicker to score: **Gay**
Team most punt return yards: **Rams**
First team to score: **Rams**
First team to recover a turnover: **Rams**
MVP: **Stafford**
Over/Under 55



Phil Bowman
Daniel Island News Sports Writer


Daniel Island News

155-92


BALLOT:
For the week of February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP
Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Burrow**
Leading rusher: **Mixon**
Leading receiver: **Kupp**
Leading tackler: **Fuller**
Leading sacker: **Donald**
First kicker to score: **Gay**
Team most punt return yards: **Rams**
First team to score: **Rams**
First team to recover a turnover: **Bengals**
MVP: **Burrow**
Over/Under 55



Chris Mingledorff & Michael Patterson
Mingledorff & Patterson




152-95


BALLOT:
For the week of February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP
Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Burrow**
Leading rusher: **Mixon**
Leading receiver: **Kupp**
Leading tackler: **Fuller**
Leading sacker: **Donald**
First kicker to score: **Gay**
Team most punt return yards: **Rams**
First team to score: **Rams**
First team to recover a turnover: **Rams**
MVP: **Kupp**
Over/Under 55



Ashley Severance
Atlantic Properties



152-95

BALLOT:
For the week of February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP
Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Stafford**
Leading rusher: **Mixon**
Leading receiver: **Chase**
Leading tackler: **Donald**
Leading sacker: **Miller**
First kicker to score: **McPherson**
Team most punt return yards: **Rams**
First team to score: **Rams**
First team to recover a turnover: **Rams**
MVP: **Kupp**
Over/Under 55



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Phil Bowman
The Daniel Island News

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\$50 gift card to Laura Alberts!



Rob Preiditsch
Carolina One



151-96

BALLOT:

For the week of
February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP

Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Stafford**

Leading rusher: **Mixon**

Leading receiver: **Kupp**

Leading tackler: **Donald**

Leading sacker: **Donald**

First kicker to score: **Gay**

Team most punt return yards:
Rams

First team to score: **Bengals**

First team to recover a turnover:
Rams

MVP: **Kupp**

Over/Under 55



Dr. Jimmy Smith
Daniel Island Chiropractic



150-97

BALLOT:

For the week of
February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP

Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Stafford**

Leading rusher: **Mixon**

Leading receiver: **Kupp**

Leading tackler: **Miller**

Leading sacker: **Hendrickson**

First kicker to score: **Gay**

Team most punt return yards:
Rams

First team to score: **Rams**

First team to recover a turnover:
Rams

MVP: **Stafford**

Over/Under 55



Mary Patterson
Quartermaster Properties



146-101

BALLOT:

For the week of
February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP

Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Burrow**

Leading rusher: **Mixon**

Leading receiver: **Kupp**

Leading tackler: **Weddle**

Leading sacker: **Donald**

First kicker to score: **McPherson**

Team most punt return yards:
Rams

First team to score: **Rams**

First team to recover a turnover:
Rams

MVP: **Stafford**

Over/Under 55



Nancy Crick
Carolina One



140-107

BALLOT:

For the week of
February 10, 2022

NFL CHAMPIONSHIP

Rams v. Bengals

Leading passer: **Burrow**

Leading rusher: **Mixon**

Leading receiver: **Kupp**

Leading tackler: **Miller**

Leading sacker: **Donald**

First kicker to score: **McPherson**

Team most punt return yards:
Rams

First team to score: **Rams**

First team to recover a turnover:
Bengals

MVP: **Burrows**

Over/Under 55

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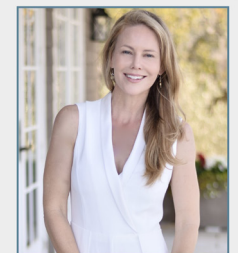


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meeting NOTES

These are the issues coming before various City of Charleston boards and committees and the review results specific to Daniel Island and the Cainhoj area. All meetings are open for public comment except the Technical Review Committee (TRC) meetings. Learn more on-line at charleston-sc.gov/AgendaCenter/.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

City of Charleston TRC

Date: Feb. 17

A site plan for Woodfield II at Point Hope Parkway in Cainhoj (fourth review). This is a 10-acre site plan for a mixed-use project on Point Hope Parkway, Foundation Street and Hopewell Drive for multi-family units (223) and retail that includes seven buildings, parking and associated site improvements. The owner is Woodfield Investments, LLC. The applicant is Thomas & Hutton. Contact: Brian Riley, riley.b@tandh.com.

RESULTS FROM PAST MEETINGS

Date: Feb. 3

Site plan for Mikasa Apartments on Clements Ferry Road in Cainhoj (pre-app). This is a 19.55-acre site plan for the construction of multi-family residential buildings and a parking lot to house 320 units. The owner is Avention Companies. The applicant is Thomas & Hutton. Contact: Corey Balenger, balenger@tandh.com. **Results: Submit to TRC for 1st review.**

REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- Berkeley County Council meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner.
- Berkeley County Board of Education meetings are held twice each month. Executive Committee meets at 5:30 p.m.; meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.
- Charleston City Council conducts its meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 5 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE EVENTS

VALENTINE PARTY

On Saturday, Feb. 12, from 1-3 pm, Daniel Island residents can come to the Pierce Park Pavilion to make Valentine cards for people at Wellmore and Summit Place. Supplies will be provided.

FOOD DRIVE

Providence Church, 294 Seven Farms Drive, is collecting non-perishable food items for the Lowcountry Food Bank through end of Feb. Items include: baby food, canned meats, canned soups/stews, cereal, fruit juice, peanut butter. Containers for food donations are located on the front and back porches of the church.

BLESSING BOXES

The Daniel Island Community Foundation and its Resident Advisory Committee's food drive benefitting local blessing boxes continues until 3:30 pm on Feb. 14. Blessing Boxes are stocked with non-perishable food items, basic toiletries and baby supplies. Drop new, unopened items at the POA Office (130 River Landing Drive, Suite 1C) 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Contact Danielle Stix at Danielle.Stix@dcommunity.org.

BLOOD DRIVES

- Feb. 13: Red Cross Blood Mobile hosted by St. Clare's Parish and Bishop England High School will be held in the BE parking lot, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Sign up online at redcrossblood.org or contact christinelark@gmail.com.
- Feb. 21: The Church of the Holy Cross will hold a Red Cross blood drive from 10 am - 3 pm.

MUSEUM PREVIEW

The Daniel Island Historical Society is hosting a "Behind the Scenes" preview of the International African American Museum on Tues., Feb. 15, from 7-8 pm at the Church of the Holy Cross Parish Hall, 299 Seven Farms Drive.

GRIEF SEMINARS

Each Tuesday from Feb. 22 to May 3, 6:30-8:30 pm, the Parish Hall of the Church of the Holy Cross will host a free recovery seminar and support group called GriefShare. Contact Deacon Ed Dyckman at 843-367-5647 or dyckman.edward@gmail.com.

DI NEWS AUTHOR SERIES

Noted local authors Gordon Rhea and Herb Frazier will present their new books focusing on Civil War and Reconstruction eras, followed by discussion, Q&A and a book signing Wed., Feb. 23, 7 pm at the theater in Daniel's Pointe Retirement Community, 514 Robert Daniel Dr. The event is free and open to the public. To give organizers an idea on attendance and how many books to have available for sale, sign up at eventbrite.com/e/daniel-island-news-monthly-author-series-february-23-event-tickets-258022410977.

DI NIGHT AT THE STINGRAYS

On Saturday, Feb. 26, from 5-8 pm, Daniel Island residents are invited to enjoy a fun night with the South Carolina Stingrays. Tickets can be purchased on the DI Property Owners' Association website.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CREDIT ONE CHARLESTON OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Credit One Charleston Open is seeking volunteers for the tennis tournament April 2-10 on Daniel Island. Volunteers will receive a credential, which grants them access to all day sessions throughout the tournament. Credit One Charleston Open is also seeking Ball Crew Members for the April tournament. No age limit to join, the only requirement is to be able to run, be agile and like to have fun. Practice begins Feb. 19 and continues each Saturday until the tournament begins. For more information, visit creditonecharlestonopen.com. For questions, email Jo Cooper at volunteercoco@gmail.com.

REGULAR MEETINGS

- AA MEETINGS** Mon. - Fri., 7:30 am at Providence Church, and Sat., 8 pm at Holy Cross Church.
- COMMUNITY YOGA** held Thursdays 9:30-10:30 am at the DI Recreation Center. All levels welcome. Email Teresa Donohue at dcommunityyoga@gmail.com.
- DANIEL ISLAND CONNECT** 50-plus age group that meets the third Thurs. of each month, 6-8 pm, at the Crow's Nest. Free. Call Kathy at 502-387-3046.
- DI GARDEN CLUB** meets the second Wed. of the month at 3 pm at Holy Cross Church Parish Hall. The next meeting is Wed., Feb. 9, and Mark Motley of Wild Birds Unlimited in Mount Pleasant will speak about

"Preparing Your Yard for National Wildlife Certification." Raffle for six bluebird houses. Contact Linda Price at lmwpr@gmail.com.

DANIEL ISLAND GOP CLUB meets the third Mon. of the month, 8 am, at the Daniel Pointe Retirement Community. Free and open to the public.

DANIEL ISLAND LIBRARY CLUB EVENTS Capt. Daniell's Pipers Recorder Group: Tues. 2-3 pm; Needleworkers: second and fourth Tues. of the month, 11:15 am; Book Club: third Tues. of the month, 11 am - noon; Deepthinkers Discussion Group: Wed., 10:30 am to noon; Social Bridge Club: second Fri. and fourth Mon. of the month, 1-4 pm; Writers Group: first Wed. of the month, 4:30-6 pm.

DANIEL ISLAND WYLDLIFE For all middle schoolers on DI, club meets Mon. from 7-8 pm at DI Recreation Center. Campaigners meet Wed., 6:30-7:30 pm. Email Tlengye191@gmail.com.

EXCHANGE CLUB OF DANIEL ISLAND meets on the fourth Tues. of every month at 5:30 pm at the Daniel Pointe Community Center, 514 Robert Daniel Dr. More info at dixchangeclub.org.

MASTER GARDENER Q&A meets the first Mon. of the month at the DI Library, 4-6 pm. Master Gardener on hand to answer questions and accept soil samples. **PHILIP SIMMONS YOUNG LIFE** All Philip Simmons students welcome. Club meets every other Wed. at 208 Grand Park Blvd. Campaigners every Mon. at 7 pm. Email Tlengye191@gmail.com.

REPUBLICAN WOMEN meet the fourth Mon. of each month, 11:30 am, Hilton Garden Inn, 300 Wingo Way, Mt. Pleasant. Visit East Cooper Republican Women on Facebook or email tblaiecrv@protonmail.com.

ROTARY CLUB OF DI meets every Wed. at 7:30 am at the DI Club and virtually. Email maryjo@mjrccac.com at danielislandrotary.com.

SOUTH BERKELEY DEMOCRATS meet at 4 pm the third Sun. of each month at Daniel Pointe Retirement Community. berkeleydems.com.

TAI CHI CLASSES will be held at the DI Library every Tues. at 10 am and Fri. at 9 am.

TOASTMASTERS meets virtually every first and third Sat., 9-10 am. danielislandtoastmasters@gmail.com.

WILLINGWAYS "CONTINUED CARE GROUP" is designed to help families struggling with alcohol and drug abuse. Meetings are at Holy Cross Church, Mon., 6:30-7:30 pm. Rhett Crull, 843-323-7111.

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

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- 27 Lounge seating

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MYSTERY ? **CONTEST**

CONGRATS TO LAST WEEK'S WINNER: GERRY BARNHART

The winner of the Mystery Photo Contest from Feb. 3 is Gerry Barnhart, who correctly identified the picture as part of the sign for Agaves Cantina, located at 885 Island Park Drive on Daniel Island.

Barnhart, who lives at Daniel Pointe Retirement Community, recognized the sign because it's his favorite restaurant. His daughter, Kelli Barnhart, sent in his response and said her dad would be "over the moon thrilled if he finally got this right!"

Congrats are also in order to the following readers for sending in the correct responses: Kathie Harvey, Karen Fedder, Greta Hughey, Robert Peiffer, Aly Hall, Rose Monahan, Adleigh Lollis, Holly Watson, Carter Delman, and Miller Budlong.



Gerry Barnhart

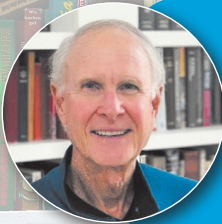
CAN YOU GUESS THIS WEEK'S PHOTO?



If you recognize this photo, please send your answer, along with your phone number, to mysterypic@thedanielislandnews.com by noon on Saturday, Feb. 12. The names of the winners with the correct response will run in next week's paper.

ILLUMINATING CHARLESTON'S PAST

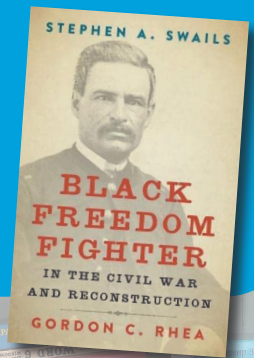
Book signing and discussion with noted local authors about the Reconstruction Era in South Carolina and about one women's discovery of her family's slave trade past




GORDON RHEA

South Carolina Civil War historian and author of seven award-winning books about the Civil War, Rhea will discuss his new book: "Stephen A. Swails: Black Freedom Fighter in Civil War and Reconstruction."


Learn more at www.gordonrhea.com.







HERB FRAZIER

Co-author of "We Are Charleston," co-edited "Ukweli: Searching for Healing Truth." This compilation of forty-five writers and poets provides insight into the struggles Black people faced as they made substantial contributions to America.



Essayist Margaret Seidler will discuss her essay "Payne-ful' Business: Illuminating Charleston's Past" and poet James Brailsford will share "Deliver Us."

FREE EVENT!



**WEDNESDAY
FEB. 23
7 PM**

**DANIEL POINTE
RETIREMENT
COMMUNITY
514 Robert Daniel Drive**

Attendees are encouraged but not required to sign-up on Eventbrite to help organizers gauge attendance and number of books to have available for purchase.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/daniel-island-news-monthly-author-series-february-23-event-tickets-258022410977>

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Fifteen, Ten, and Five Years Ago in THE DANIEL ISLAND NEWS

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 8, 2007:



The cover and centerfold featured Valentine's Day stories and suggestions for creative, loving and inexpensive gift ideas on how to celebrate the holiday. One idea was if your significant other hates certain chores, then you might design

a book of coupons, good for a car wash or a dog bath or a week of laundry. Another idea was if childcare costs are stopping you from going out for the evening, then arrange a barter with another couple. You babysit on Friday evening and they care for the kiddos on Saturday evening. Both couples enjoy the quiet time together, even if it means just cuddling at home for a few hours, alone!

TEN YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 9, 2012:



A feature article included a summary of a SCDOT meeting regarding the Clements Ferry Road expansion where residents reviewed information about the construction project and were able to ask questions.

The centerfold article included ways the Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau marketed the island at the time. Perin Lawson, deputy director of the CVB at the time, said, "Daniel Island is an exceptional residential community with fabulous amenities and a core business district. It is easily accessible from North Charleston and the East Cooper area, and by extension, from peninsular Charleston. It is the site of some of the area's most popular festivals, concerts and annual events."

FIVE YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 9, 2017:



A feature article was about a group of powerful people in the public and private sectors that came together to discuss progress made on the State Ports Authority's project to deepen the Port of Charleston to 52 feet, deep enough for the massive "neo-Panamax" ships that had recently begun passing through the expanded Panama Canal.

In honor of Valentine's Day, the centerfold included stories of couples who said "I do" at the Daniel Island Club as it has been and continues to be a popular wedding destination. Erin Dudley, event sales manager at the Daniel Island Club at the time, shared some insights into how she and her staff set the stage for romance and, hopefully, lifelong happiness around every "I do!" "We host 35 to 40 weddings each year," Dudley said. "Of course, spring and early summer are the most popular seasons, as well the fall month of October."

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