

Bluffton Today

BLUFFTON'S ONLY DAILY HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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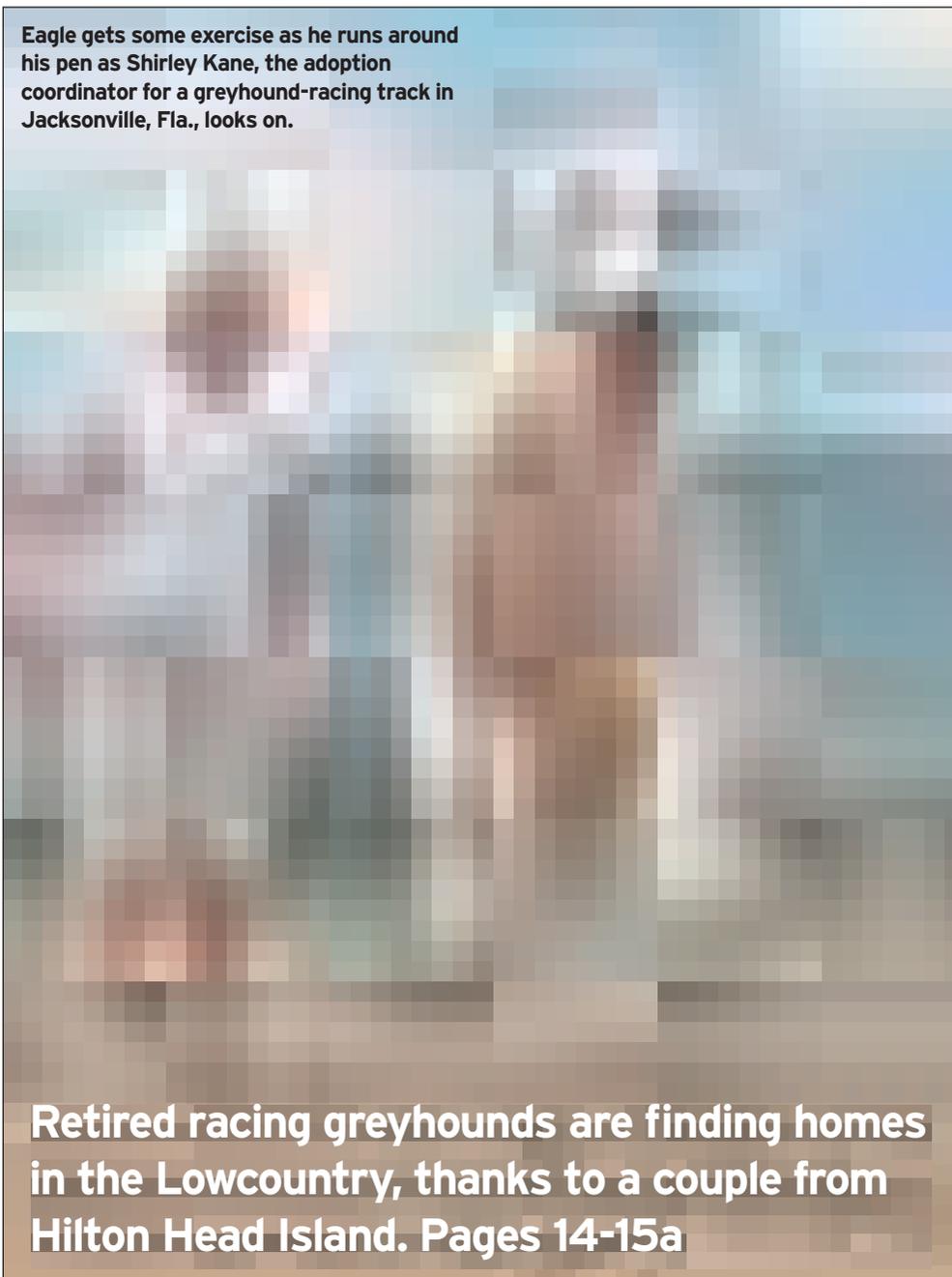
Birds and their feathers

Our readers flock together to share their favorite photos of wings and things. **Page 22a**

Volume 4, Number 94 • **COMING TOMORROW:** A Lowcountry resident says county stormwater regulators should get ready for "war."

Fast Friends

Eagle gets some exercise as he runs around his pen as Shirley Kane, the adoption coordinator for a greyhound-racing track in Jacksonville, Fla., looks on.



Retired racing greyhounds are finding homes in the Lowcountry, thanks to a couple from Hilton Head Island. **Pages 14-15a**

Scott Salisbury/Bluffton Today

NEWS

Thieves target bleachers, boat docks

If it's aluminum, someone out there wants to steal it.

BY AREK SARKISSIAN II
BLUFFTON TODAY

A recent string of thefts of aluminum-based objects from county-owned facilities has deputies scouring scrap yards across the area for more than \$100,000 of materials, the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office announced Thursday.

Reports of stolen aluminum boat trailers began trickling in to the sheriff's office about eight months ago. The thefts picked up over the past couple weeks after soccer goals valued at \$131,600 were reported missing from the Bluffton Recreation Center off Ulmer Road, said sheriff's spokeswoman

SEE 'THIEVES' ON PAGE 3

SCHOOL UNIORMS

“School uniforms are going to help the dropout rate? That’s kind of a stretch, don’t you think?”

“... I think (school uniforms) are a really good idea. It cuts down on problems that kids shouldn’t have to worry about. Also, I think they should look into teachers wearing uniforms because some of the teachers’ outfits that I’ve seen have been a little outrageous. They should wear polo shirts and khakis.”

“In response to the caller who is disturbed about the uniform policy and about it showing respect to educators, I wonder if this person has seen how some of the female educators in our school system dress. Is that respecting our children?”

ROSE VS. MCCAIN

“I’m a Democrat and Wednesday’s John David Rose column about John McCain was without a doubt the most unbelievable and ghastly thing I have ever

read. I can guarantee you that I’m ashamed to be a Democrat.”

“I read in Wednesday’s paper about John McCain’s flying record. My father served with him and said his flying record was even worse than what was printed in the paper. Maybe he should take some flying lessons from Ted Kennedy.”

“The John David Rose column on Wednesday which attempted to bash Sen. John McCain is an absolute all-time low for your publishing staff. There is no truth to half of the things in that column. You can do better than that.”

“Thank you to John David Rose for a very informative column on Wednesday. We now have more items to add to the ever-growing list of reasons why John McCain is not fit to be president of the United States.”

“Even for John David Rose, this latest column is a new low. I quote, ‘McCain told his captives that his father was a Navy

SEE ‘VOX’ ON PAGE 8b

Letters to the editor

Moss Creek Marines devoted to helping overseas troops

I’m the Marine Mom of Maj. Paul “Goose” Gosden whose picture you ran along with his friend in your delightful article honoring the Moss Creek Marines in Tuesday’s Bluffton Today, highlighting their undying and unselfish efforts to support our troops away from home and bring some relief to them during this time.

In the letters from my son, Paul, these goody packages mean so very much to them – just the little things, e.g., beef jerky (who would think) means a lot.

I think the highlight of this delivery was the “camelback” hydration systems for these Marines. These really help them deal with the 120-plus to 140-plus temperatures that they endure with full gear, backpacks and flight suits every day.

Thank you so very much for remembering to honor these former U.S. Marines in Moss Creek. They are devoted to the Corps and have a bond that can never be broken. They are a group of fine, amazing gentlemen – a tribute to the U.S. Marine Corps.

Semper Fi!

Paulette Gosden, Bluffton

Firemen saved more than mere assets

I would like to publicly thank the Bluffton Township Fire District, particularly Capt. Vernon Edenfield, Derek Franks, W. Grant Turner and Austin Williams. They saved my Bluffton house.

Lightning caused a fire in my kitchen and the alarm summoned the fire department. These wonderful firefighters entered my home causing almost no damage and extinguished the fire using a minimum of water. Damage was limited to an area of the kitchen and smoke and water damages were minimal. They also eliminated the smoke and took away debris.

Captain Edenfield called me (I was in Atlanta) and gave me a thorough explanation of events. My house, although it contained nothing particularly valuable to the world at large, did contain items of great sentimental value to my family. The kind, responsive, professional and very capable gentlemen who put out the fire saved more than mere assets.

I also thank Custom Security for an excellent alarm system.

Carol Hayes, Atlanta

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