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Local Couple Wins KJB Achievement Award

Sarah Nan and Duncann Pullen are recognized for their efforts

You might call Sarah Nan and her husband, Duncann Pullen, a lot of things, but the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful (KJB) Commission is calling them winners of the 2012 KJB Awards in the Individual-Outstanding Achievement category for their tireless volunteer work in cleaning up the environment.

On April 25, KJB selected the winners of the annual KJB Awards contest.

The pair, and other winners will be recognized at the Mayor's Environmental Luncheon in August.

The couple—she's a former KJB commissioner—was lauded for their work on a wide array of environmental activities and projects that have benefitted Jacksonville. Those numerous activities, include:

- * Spearheading improvements at Hollybrook Park, transforming it from a litter-strewn, blighted underused recreational area with broken playground equipment to one where residents can sit on benches and watch their children play on new equipment or participate in sports.

- * Acting as site captains at the annual St. Johns River Celebration cleanup for years, organizing and assisting volunteers in this and many other cleanups.

- * Qualifying as a storm water management inspector, diligently keeping an eye open for violations that would cause water pollution.



Sarah Nan and Duncann Pullen, center, talk with Council Member Jim Love (far left), Dee McKrow, vice president of operations at St. Vincent's, and Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Commissioner Joh Shellhorn.

- * Working with a number of national and international groups to collect data about marine debris.

- * Educating people about water conservation and native plants.

- * Working with a group to educate people about balloon litter and marine debris.

- * Working on developing a River Friendly Business program.

Perhaps the couple's biggest achievement was convincing St. Vincent's that something had to be done about the thousands of discarded cigarette butts

they were picking up at the Riverside Campus, according to Nan.

She persuaded Mark Armen, who created an aquatic-themed cigarette receptacle called the BaitTank, to donate one to St. Johns Riverkeeper. The box has gill-like openings and a decorative dorsal fin on top, and encourages smokers to properly dispose of cigarette butts.

Nan worked with KJB and the city to have the BaitTank installed at the Northbank Riverwalk near the Riverside Arts

(Continued on next page)



WELCOME!

New Adopt-A-Road Groups

- ◆ Philippi Missionary Baptist Church
- ◆ Good Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church
- ◆ 10,000 Cell-phones
- ◆ Ft. Caroline United Methodist Church

Did you know?

In 2011, 3,443 Adopt-A-Road volunteers donated 5,684 volunteer hours to pick up 30.8 tons of litter, trash and debris, saving the city—and taxpayers—\$123,854?

So, if you're an Adopt-A-Road volunteer, take a bow.

And if you're not, call 630-3420 to find out how you too can be one.

Spotlight on

Philippi Missionary Baptist Church

Jacqueline Tyler, a member of Philippi Missionary Church, said that when her pastor learned about the Adopt-A-Road program from his employer, Edward Waters College, he wanted his church to join.

The school's Student Government Association had adopted roadways near the school and he was interested in extending that type of community service into the neighborhood the church serves.

"I searched the city's website and called the Clean It Up, Green It Up office and was invited to participate in the Pride on the Northside on Lem Turner Road," Mrs. Tyler recalled.

After that northside cleanup, Philippi members were sold on neighborhood cleanups and the Adopt-A-Road program.

The church adopted Gibson Avenue, where the church is located, and cleans from Soutel Drive to Trout River Boulevard.

In February, members conducted their first cleanup. Seventeen volunteers, including a mother with a child in a



stroller, collected 30 bags of trash and 14 tires in two hours.

"I am still excited about how well our first cleanup went," Mrs. Tyler said. "Everyone came ready to go, even our pastor and his entire family. Some of our congregation was so ready they even had their own gloves and grabbers."

Neighbors were also excited about the cleanup, Mrs. Tyler said.

"We even received a thank you letter from two residents who live on Gibson Avenue thanking Philippi

for adopting that road, she said, adding that they sent a copy of the letter to Mayor Alvin Brown. Church members were surprised by the amount of litter that they found on their adopted Roadway, "especially my husband," Mrs. Tyler said.

Asked if she would recommend other churches or groups become involved in the Adopt-A-Road program, Mrs. Tyler remarked, "Yes, it shows pride in your neighborhood, improves your property values, is an opportunity to meet your neighbors and is good exercise."

KJB Awards

Continued from previous page

Market, and since then, several have been installed in Riverside, including at St. Vincent's Hospital. Nan and Pullen maintain the Riverside BaitTanks.

Other groups and organizations that were winners in the annual awards include:

- ◆ Naval Air Station Jacksonville (military category)
- ◆ Daniel Wynn (individual category)
- ◆ Rita Wilson (Individual

- category)
- ◆ John Nooney (individual category)
- ◆ Girl Scout Troop 1000 (organization category)
- ◆ Jacksonville Jaycees (organization category)
- ◆ Duval County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (organization category)
- ◆ Seabreeze Elementary School (elementary school category)

- ◆ Sandalwood High School (high school category)
- ◆ Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center (high school category)
- ◆ Florida Coastal School of Law (college or university category)

Commission members who judged this year's submissions said all those who submitted entries should be proud of their work.

Lots of junk picked up at annual St. Johns River Celebration Clean Up

A 1,000 pound metal box, egg case, syringes, computer, monitor, dead possum and homeless camp were among the items and things that volunteers came across during the annual St. Johns River Celebration cleanup on March 17 at 33 locations around Duval County.

Some 982 volunteers donated 1,810 hours to pick up about 38 tons of trash, enough tires for 28 trucks, junk and assorted trash at more than 25 sites around Jacksonville.

A sampling of what was bagged:

- A net, shoes, cigarette butts, bottles, towels, egg case—at the beach and Beach Boulevard
- Metal rods, concrete, 1,000 lb metal box—at Tillie Fowler Regional Park
- Fishing pole, dead possum, metal, Styrofoam—at Northbank Riverwalk
- Rod, reel, 150-ft garden hose, 3 syringes—at Memorial Park
- Carpet, large homeless camp at back of park at Ringhaver Park



Mayor Alvin Brown was among the many volunteers who helped at the annual St. Johns River Celebration cleanup on March 17.

Jacksonville Celebrates 22nd Annual Earth Day & Ecology Fair

Afternoon showers didn't dampen spirits at the 22nd Annual Earth Day & Ecology Fair, held at the Jacksonville

Landing on Saturday, April 21.

The party was just moved indoors—long before the rain fell.

Keep Jacksonville Beautiful/Clean It Up Green It Up had a booth, along with dozens of other organizations and businesses.

The Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary was one of them.

Curt LoGuidice, who operates the non-profit organization with all volunteers, said the sanctuary takes in animals that were confiscated. He was one of several speakers at the event and spoke about his wildlife sanctuary and protecting the environment.

"That's why Catty Shack joined the City of Jacksonville's Adopt-A-Road program. We are concerned about the environment and for people and animals," he said.

For information about the sanctuary, visit cattyshack.org.



Curt LoGuidice of The Catty Shack Wildlife Sanctuary speaks at the Earth Day & Ecology Fair.



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