

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



April 19, 2018  
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75 cents

*Not your average newspaper, not your average reader*

PonteVedraRecorder.com

## PANTHER PRIDE



Nease defeated Ponte Vedra 8-4 last week in baseball. Pictured above is Nease's Sam Gallardo as he's mobbed by teammates after hitting a home run. *Flip to page 36 for more photos from the crosstown rivalry.*

Photo by Jerry and Chris Norton

Home Design  
& Remodeling

Pages 19-25



Business Weekly

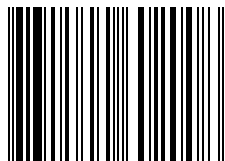
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the Beaches since 1969,  
and now Nocatee



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PAVE 05/15/18



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## Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

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## WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to [jonb@opcfla.com](mailto:jonb@opcfla.com) by Monday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room sign. The winner of the random drawing was **Jackie Gray**. Congratulations, Jackie – you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



## ADOPT A PET

### CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Robinson, and I am a 6-year-old male cat who was brought to the pet center by my owners. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #42328



### DOG OF THE WEEK



My name is Gidget, and I am a 3-year-old female dog who was brought to the pet center as an owner surrender. (There may be some traits that are unknown at this time.) Come visit me today here at the pet center! #34224

Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training, and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

## St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. For more information, please call the **St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190**.

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

S	P	E	C	S	U	M	P	M	I	S	S
T	E	R	R	A	S	O	L	R	A	D	I
O	R	I	E	L	E	M	U	I	C	E	A
W	I	N	D	S	O	R	M	E	G	H	A
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O	V	E	R	G	A	T	T	R	I	S	H
S	O	M	E	E	R	R	O	R	S	H	I
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E	V	E	N	T	R	N	A	E	N	E	M
V	E	R	T	S	A	D	R	E	D	E	S

7	6	3	5	9	8	2	4	1
9	8	1	7	4	2	5	6	3
2	5	4	6	3	1	9	8	7
5	7	8	1	6	4	3	9	2
3	9	6	2	5	7	4	1	8
4	1	2	3	8	9	6	7	5
8	3	7	4	2	6	1	5	9
1	4	5	9	7	3	8	2	6
6	2	9	8	1	5	7	3	4

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

## DINOSAURIA

THEY'RE BACK



JAXZOODINOS.ORG





**Sophisticated European Inspired Marsh Landing Home**  
This 4 bedroom / 4.5 bathroom home offers a light filled open plan for gracious and expansive entertaining. The centerpiece of this unique home is a lush garden courtyard providing a private sanctuary including pond, fountains, and fireplace. This custom home is the perfect setting for everything from casual dinners to large celebrations or simply unwinding with a book at the end of the day. **\$925,000**



**Rare Opportunity Providing Multiple Panoramic Views!**  
Built on one of the few waterfront corner lots with over 300ft of waterfront in the exclusive Harbour Island. This private Mediterranean home was designed with the intracoastal waterway as the defining element. Avid navigators welcome as there is an existing 40' boat slip adjoining the property. **\$1,695,000**



**Move-in Ready with a Major Renovation in 2016**  
Including new roof, new attached 2-car garage, new paint interior / exterior, and new granite counter tops and appliances in kitchen. Plenty of room for guests with master and 2nd bedroom on 1st floor plus 2 additional bedrooms upstairs. **\$339,000**



**Build Your Dream Home!**  
One of the largest and prettiest estate lots in Pablo Creek Reserve. Near end of the street for added privacy. One of the most sought-after communities in the area. Convenient to Beaches, Airport, and Downtown. **\$402,500**

## PTO HELPS RAISE \$60,000 FOR TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES AT OPE



Through events like the Otter Run and Groovin Havana Nights, Ocean Palms Elementary's PTO helped raise \$60,000 for new technology in the classrooms. Principal Tiffany Cantwell (center) accepted the check and announced the funds would be used for clear touch panels in every classroom. The money will also help fund other computer programs such as i-Ready and RAZ Kids.

Photo courtesy of Pamela Riley

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# Construction of new PGA Tour headquarters to commence summer 2018



The PGA Tour's new headquarters will be three stories tall and surrounded by a large freshwater pond.

By Samantha Logue

Construction on the new global home of the PGA Tour is scheduled to begin this summer, according to officials in the company. The 187,000 square-foot building will be located off of Palm Valley Road and is projected to be completed by late 2020.

“Our sitework is anticipated to begin in June or July, and that will include mobilization, clearing, grading, utilities, digging of the lakes,” said Kirsten Sabia, vice president of integrated communications for the PGA Tour. “The building construction is anticipated to start sometime in the late fall, when they actually start to lay the foundation itself.”

Ponte Vedra Beach has been home to the PGA Tour since the late 1970s, but according to Sabia, as the organization has expanded, it has become increasingly challenging for the Tour to maintain a well-organized operational structure.

“We’ve grown into a global tour,” she said. “We have employees not only here on the First Coast, but also in our tournament offices around the country. We have 16 different buildings here in Ponte Vedra where our employees are spread out, and it’s not very efficient. For us to be in one building, it will make us not only more efficient, but more effective, more cohesive and integrated as a global organization.”

Designed by Foster + Partners, a London-based architectural firm, the office building will be set 880 feet back from the main road, according to a recommendation for approval St. Johns County submitted to the Ponte Vedra Architectural Review Committee (PVARC). It will be mostly obscured from view by landscaping and will be surrounded by a large pond. Designed in a sleek, modern style, the three-story building will be made of steel, concrete, metal panel and glass, and will feature columns, a flat roof and outdoor decks and balconies made of wood.

“What we really liked about Foster + Partners was the way that they took the environment here – of Ponte Vedra, of TPC Sawgrass, of our sport – and how they brought that into their design of the building,” Sabia said. “There’s water,



The main entrance of the global home of the PGA Tour will be set back from the main road and mostly obscured from view by copious amounts of trees.

Renderings courtesy of St. Johns County Growth Management Department

there’s light, there’s external walking paths. We are a sport that is played outdoors, somewhat rain-or-shine, and we feel like they really grasped that part of the nature of our sport in our future building.”

According to the county’s report, the environment was an inspiration not only for the building’s aesthetic design, but also its functionality. The design is proposed to be certified LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold, a rating given by the United States Green Building Council to buildings that achieve the second-highest level of sustainability and energy efficiency possible (the highest rating being Platinum).

“We’re a sport where the environment is important to what it is and to our athletes and where they participate, so having our building be one that takes the environment into consideration is extremely important to us,” Sabia explained.

Even so, for those in the community who have outspokenly opposed the new

building’s construction, the main point of contention has been a possible increase in traffic through Ponte Vedra Beach—an issue that has become increasingly vexing for many residents as St. Johns County’s population continues to grow. The PGA Tour, however, contends that its new headquarters will not adversely impact current traffic.

“We have a lot of employees who live here in Ponte Vedra Beach and the surrounding area,” Sabia said. “I drive on A1A everyday and have for 19 years, so I get it, but the future traffic generated by our headquarters is not expected to exceed the traffic volumes that currently exist. In fact, as we consolidate our employees into one building, many of our employees who are residents of Ponte Vedra Beach and travel on A1A for their normal work – especially for those coming from the west – they won’t even hit A1A. So, to a certain extent, we’re going to be taking traffic off of A1A, and we’re going to be taking traffic off of Solana to that one

point of location.”

Sabia conceded, however, that traffic patterns may be affected this summer as construction begins on the building’s entry point, which will be located where the County Courthouse Annex building currently stands at 5430 Palm Valley Road.

“We are working to widen County Road 210 at that point of access, and that will be for probably about six weeks this summer when school is out to minimize the traffic impact,” Sabia said.

While the PGA Tour’s primary focus is on THE PLAYERS Championship next month, according to Sabia, moves to begin construction will follow shortly after.

“It’s going to be fantastic,” she said. “We’re in buildings that were built in 1980 and now it’s 2018, so the idea of having something new where we can all be together ... it’s just going to make us a more tight-knit unit than we already are, and I just think it’s going to be great to be able to see our colleagues on a more regular basis.”



# Florida DEP investigates Ponte Vedra Beach residents for non-compliant excavation of beach sand

By Benjamin Naim

Four Ponte Vedra Boulevard residents, including the CEOs of Web.com and United Airlines, are being investigated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for engaging in non-compliant excavation of beach sand.

According to DEP documents obtained by the Recorder, the department sent warning letters on March 22 to financial advisor Christopher Aitken from Aitken and Associates, resident Margaret Conolly, Web.com CEO David Brown and United Airlines CEO Oscar Munoz. The letters state that – following a department inspection yielding photographic evidence – the homeowners used mechanical equipment to scrape or push sand from the existing beach to create a small frontal dune at the base of the original eroded dune.

DEP Deputy Press Secretary Dee Ann

Miller said the department has been actively working to investigate all non-compliant beach-related activities and notify owners if further actions are required.

“The Department has sent warning letters to four St. Johns County property owners for sand scraping activities performed at their properties,” Miller said in an email to the Recorder. “These letters address noted potential violations during recent inspections. Excavation of sand (sand scraping) seaward of the Coastal Construction Control line must be permitted. These activities must also be conducted in accordance with the state’s environmental laws and conditions included in the permit for those activities.”

Richard S. Brightman, an attorney representing Aitken, told the Recorder that the dune system in front of Aitken’s house



Photo courtesy of the Florida DEP public online database

**A Florida Department of Environmental Protection photo shows the impacts of non-compliant sand scraping on the beach off Ponte Vedra Boulevard. Four Ponte Vedra Boulevard residents are being investigated by the DEP for such activity.**

**SAND** continues on Page 13

**Action News Jax anchor John Bachman; Florida National Guard Counter Drug Civil Operations representative Captain Michael Coy; Orange Park Medical Center Director of Pharmacy Dr. Jodie Graves; St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar; Epic Behavioral Healthcare Opioid Treatment Team Care Coordinator Clarence Kelley; Flagler Hospital Emergency Room Clinical Coordinator Michelle Andrade; and St. Johns County School District Superintendent Tim Forson gather following their panel discussion on the opioid crisis at a town hall meeting on April 11 in St. Augustine.**



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

## Community leaders address opioid epidemic, share concerns and offer solutions

By Jon Blauvelt

A panel of community leaders discussed the local impacts of the opioid epidemic, potential solutions and resources to address the problem at a town hall meeting presented by PACT Prevention Coalition on Wednesday, April 11.

Held at the St. Johns County Auditorium in St. Augustine, the event’s panel featured St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar; St. Johns County School District Superintendent Tim Forson; Flagler Hospital Emergency Room Clinical

Coordinator Michelle Andrade; Orange Park Medical Center Director of Pharmacy Dr. Jodie Graves; Epic Behavioral Healthcare Opioid Treatment Team Care Coordinator Clarence Kelley; and Florida National Guard Counter Drug Civil Operations representative Captain Michael Coy. Action News Jax anchor

John Bachman moderated the discussion. Prior to the discussion, event attendees watched a video that focused on the stark impacts of the opioid epidemic in St. Johns County. Last year, the video

“This problem is an equal opportunity problem. White, black, rich, poor. I don’t care where you sit.”

**David Shoar**, St. Johns County Sheriff on the opioid epidemic

**OPIOID** continues on Page 17

## FEMA approves more than \$10 million for St. Johns County Matthew recovery

St. Johns County will receive \$10,315,123 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), including reimbursement for debris removal and for dredging on Treasure Beach following Hurricane Matthew, according to a recent press release sent by the agency.

The \$10 million awarded represents three grants, at a federal cost-share not less than 75 percent of the total cost of the projects. The remainder will come from non-federal sources.

These grants are funded through FEMA’s Public Assistance Grant program, which reimburses communities for actions taken in the immediate response and during recovery from a disaster. Eligible applicants include states, federally recognized tribal governments, U.S. territories, local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations. The grant applications are submitted by the state, which coordinates the process with local governments.

FEMA obligated funding for this project directly to the State of Florida. Following the state’s review process and upon receipt of appropriate documentation, the awards will be provided to St. Johns County on a reimbursable basis.

**FEMA** continues on Page 17



*A Ponte Vedra resident, Jim McCarthy is the president of North Florida Land Trust, as well as a volunteer at THE PLAYERS Championship for 34 years. With the tournament only a few weeks away, the Recorder decided to speak with Jim exclusively about his volunteer experience over the years.*

## Jim McCarthy

### Can you please tell us about your volunteer background with THE PLAYERS Championship?

As a sitting national vice president, I was invited by the Jacksonville Jaycees to volunteer at the 1985 tournament. The Jaycees were handling VIP shuttles. I used a golf cart and picked up VIPs at the clubhouse and took them to their cars. Over the next 33 years, I served on the Corporate Hospitality, 16 Chalets, Marshals, Greenside Reporters (later Lasers and now ShotLink) and Admissions & Will Call committees. My first leadership role came when I was appointed an assistant chair on the Ecology Committee. From there, I returned to ShotLink as an assistant chair for two years and then became chair of Facility Patrol (renamed Tournament Support). Four years ago, I was selected to chair Volunteer Personnel.

### What's the Volunteer Leadership Society? What does it mean to you to be part of that group?

It is a new group created to recognize long serving (more than 25 years) volunteers who have had a leadership role and who have decided to retire. It means a great deal to me. It recognizes the years and level of service I have tried to give to the tournament. It keeps me in touch with the tournament I love and the friends I care so much about.

### What makes THE PLAYERS Championship most special to you?

It is an incredible family. We have grown older together. We know each other's kids and have watched them grow. We have even attended their weddings and, unfortunately, we have attended a friend's funeral. We are a very close group of committed individuals. We all love THE PLAYERS.

### What's your favorite PLAYERS moment in your 34 years of volunteering?

I really have two. Working with one of my sons on the ShotLink Committee is one. We spent Friday and Sunday working on 17 green. Spending 16 hours with your son on a 6- by 6-foot platform overlooking 17 and discussing whatever was on his mind was unbelievable. The second was working with my other son on the Ecology Committee. He still tells folks he was "the trash dude's driver." He drove my cart while we picked up trash. We spent four very long days driving the beautiful Stadium Course talking and laughing.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

### What's something about THE PLAYERS volunteers that most people don't know?

When folks think about the tournament, they seem to think of being a marshal, but there are so many other things to do at the tournament. There

are opportunities to cook, build, paint, rope, host, welcome, distribute tickets and apparel, provide security and first aid, park, shuttle, answer questions, place volunteers and nearly anything else you can imagine. Many work year-round and

others for months before the event, and some work very long hours all seven days of tournament week. Folks have no idea how much fun we have!

*Edited by Jon Blauvelt*

*To watch a video portion of the interview, visit [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com) and click One of Us.*





Photo courtesy of St. Johns County School District

**St. Johns County School Board District 4 Member Kelly Barrera (center) displays her Certified Board Member distinction alongside Superintendent Tim Forson, school board member Bill Mignon, Tina Pinkoson with the Florida School Boards Association and other board members Beverly Slough, Patrick Canan and Tommy Allen.**

## Barrera recognized for earning honorable distinction

St. Johns County School Board District 4 Member Kelly Barrera was recognized for earning the Certified Board Member distinction by the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) at the St. Johns County School Board Meeting held on April 10.

To earn this distinction, board members must complete 96 hours of voluntary professional development. Educational opportunities are focused on building a strong foundation in the content areas of

school finance, policy governance, personnel and bargaining, advocacy, state/federal legislative processes and boardsmanship.

“The program’s 96 hours of training are designed to help board members develop valuable leadership skills,” said FSBA Executive Director and former CBM recipient, Andrea Messina. “We expect school board members who earn the Certified Board Member distinction to have a positive and lasting impact on their school boards.”



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**Odom’s Mill at Ponte Vedra Beach  
\$695,000**

One of a kind lakefront home on an extraordinarily private lot. Wood floors, high ceilings, deep moldings and walls of windows to capture the views from most every room. The remodeled eat-in kitchen with granite counters and ss appliances opens to family room w/FP. Spacious master suite with spa like bath, theater room and covered lanai overlooking lake. Convenient to schools, shopping and beach via sidewalks. MLS 931681



**Selva Tierra - Atlantic Beach  
\$550,000**

OPEN HOUSE at 1844 Tierra Verde Drive on Sunday, April 22nd from 1-4pm. Lovingly and meticulously maintained 3BR/2BA home on quiet, friendly cul de sac (once a month block party) just a few short blocks to the ocean and Atlantic Beach CC. Eat-in kitchen opens to spacious deck. Great room with vaulted ceiling and gorgeous stone fireplace, Florida room overlooking pretty yard and outside enclosed shower and spa. MLS 928414



**Sawmill Lakes - Ponte Vedra Beach  
\$575,000**

OPEN HOUSE at 232 N Mill View Way on Saturday, April 21st from 1-4pm. Fabulous 4BR/3BA plus office and bonus room home on beautifully landscaped lot with long water views. Remodeled kitchen w/ss appliances, granite counters and gas range opens to family room with fireplace, built-ins and wall of windows to bring in the views. Screened lanai, Plantation shutters, hardwood floors and updated baths. MLS 925039



**Old Ponte Vedra Beach  
\$1,895,000**

Located in the heart of Old Ponte Vedra this beautifully remodeled 5BR/4BA pool home overlooks the 5th hole of prestigious PV Inn & Club’s Ocean Course. Just blocks to the beach, it offers a wonderfully open floor plan with high ceilings, Travertine floors & walls of windows to bring in the views. Stunning kitchen opens to both dining & great rooms - perfect for entertaining. Lanai with elevated terrace overlooks pool & golf course. MLS 931702

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Thursday, April 19	Friday, April 20	Saturday, April 21	Sunday, April 22
<p><b>Art for Tots: Spring in Garden</b> This class, scheduled for April 19 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens, will explore the gardens and study the different shapes and colors in the natural world. In the studio, children will use flowers to create a painting with unique textures. Art for Tots is funded through the Chartrand Family Foundation. Class size is limited. For more information, email <a href="mailto:education@cummermuseum.org">education@cummermuseum.org</a> or call (904) 355-0630.</p> <p><b>Jacksonville Historical Society April lecture series</b> April's Lecture Series event at the Jacksonville Historical Society will feature George R. Burns, vice president of the Cowford Archaeological Research Society (CARS), who will speak on the Jacksonville Wall Project. CARS has been working on locating and identifying evidence of the security wall built by the U.S. Army around Jacksonville during the U.S. Civil War. This event will take place April 19 at 317 A Philip Randolph Blvd. in Jacksonville from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>'Rampage' at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame</b> "Rampage" is based on the classic 1980s video game featuring apes and monsters destroying cities. The film is showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame April 19 at 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <a href="http://www.worldgolfimax.com">www.worldgolfimax.com</a>. The World Golf hall of Fame IMAX Theater is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Grief support group</b> A grief support group meets on the third Thursday of each month at St. Paul's Catholic Church, room 102 of the Family Live Center. The group welcomes men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will take place April 19 at 7 p.m. For more information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933. The church is located at 578 1st Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p><b>River House Chorus</b> Enjoy the mental, physical and spiritual benefits of group singing with the River House Chorus. This Council on Aging event will take place Fridays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine. Instructor Diane Milesko will be on hand to inspire singing and a passion for music. For more information, call (904) 209-3655 email <a href="mailto:tabo@stjohnscoa.com">tabo@stjohnscoa.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Cuban Shabbat dinner at the beach</b> Join Chabad at the Beaches April 20 at 7 p.m. for a Cuban-themed Shabbat dinner. Experience the cuisine, culture and history of Jewish Cuba along with a dinner featuring authentic Kosher Cuban delights. The event will also feature a lively discussion on Cuba's Jewish population and culture. There is a suggested donation of \$25 per person. For reservations, visit <a href="http://www.chabadbeaches.com">www.chabadbeaches.com</a>. Call (904) 543-9301 for more information. Chabad at the Beaches is located at 521 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Cosmic yoga for kids</b> Learn to relax the mind and body with simple, kid-friendly stretches, exercises and activities at Frank B. Butler Park East, located at 5860 A1A S. in St. Augustine, April 20 from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Contact Kelly Ussia at <a href="mailto:kussia@sjcf.us">kussia@sjcf.us</a> or (904) 209-0335 for more information.</p> <p><b>David Baldacci at The BookMark</b> Bestselling author David Baldacci will appear at The BookMark April 20 at 7 p.m. to talk about and sign copies of his new mystery, "The Fallen." In total, Baldacci has published 35 novels for adults; all have been national and international bestsellers and several have been adapted for film and television. The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach.</p> <p><b>Vilano Fest 2018</b> Vilano Fest features a weekend of activities at the Vilano Town Center, including a Sea Turtle Soiree April 20 from 7 to 10 p.m. with a happy hour starting at 6 p.m. Weekend or single-day packages are available; for more information visit <a href="http://www.vilanofest.com">www.vilanofest.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Guns N Hoses charity boxing event</b> The 20th Annual Guns N Hoses charity boxing event will take place April 21 at the Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena, located at 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd. The event will feature amateur boxers (both men and women) going head-to-head in the ring while helping to raise money for the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Foundation and local charities. Doors open at the arena at 5:30 p.m. while bell time is 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.GunsNHosesJax.com">www.GunsNHosesJax.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Art for Tots: Spring in the Garden</b> This class, taking place April 21 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens, will explore the gardens and look at the different shapes and colors in the natural world. For more information, email <a href="mailto:education@cummermuseum.org">education@cummermuseum.org</a> or call (904) 355-0630. Cummer Museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Comedy for a Cause</b> Join the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset for its second-annual comedy fundraiser, Comedy for a Cause, on April 21 at UNF's Robinson Theater. Tickets cost \$35 and can be ordered at <a href="http://www.comedy4acause.org">www.comedy4acause.org</a>. This year's event will feature Danny Johnson, a Jacksonville resident known for hilarious stand-up comedy, a winner of several comedy competitions and a star of Comedy Central's Laugh Riots. Festivities will start at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kevin McAleese lecture at UNF</b> The Archaeological Institute of America, Jacksonville Society will meet April 21 at noon to hear a lecture by Kevin McAleese. The lecture will be entitled "Full Circle-First Contact: Vikings &amp; Skraelings in Newfoundland and Labrador." This meeting, which is free and open to the public, will take place in Room 1205, Building 51 at the University of North Florida.</p> <p><b>Shearwater 5K run</b> Shearwater will host its second-annual 5K on the Trails to celebrate Earth Day on April 21 at 8 a.m. The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Shearwater's nature trail system bordering natural habitat preserves. Visit <a href="http://www.shearwater5k.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=8399">www.shearwater5k.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=8399</a> for more information.</p>	<p><b>Sandals, shorts and steel drum service</b> Every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church invites guests to put on sandals and shorts for a more casual worship service featuring the tropical sound of steel drum music. The church is located at 465 11th Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Full Circle Fest</b> Keepers of the Coast, a local sustainable living non-profit organization, will host its inaugural Full Circle Fest April 22 from noon to 6 p.m. The event will feature a series of speakers highlighting sustainable living ideas, alternative energy, gardening, recycling and conservation. Additionally, a food truck will be available featuring local favorites Arepa Life, Pizza Peles and the Silver Bullet. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.keepersofthecoast.org">www.keepersofthecoast.org</a>. This event will take place at Eddie Vickers Park, located at 399 Riberia St. in downtown St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Birding &amp; Photo Fest</b> Florida's Historic Coast is spreading its wings to present another year of birding and outdoor photography. The 2018 Birding &amp; Photo Fest will feature world-class photographers and new professionals/instructors offering technical training opportunities and more. Festival participants will benefit from insights and instruction. This event will take place through April 22 at the GTM Research Reserve Environmental Education Center, located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.floridasbirdingandphotofest.com">www.floridasbirdingandphotofest.com</a>.</p> <p><b>EPIC Celebration of Spring Flower &amp; Garden Expo</b> The EPIC Celebration of Spring Flower &amp; Garden Expo will feature educational seminars, nurseries and artisans from across Florida offering gardeners everything they need to make spring bloom. The expo will take place April 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and April 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Johns County Agricultural Center, located at 3125 Agricultural Center Drive in St. Augustine. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.epicbh.org">www.epicbh.org</a>.</p>

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Monday, April 23	Tuesday, April 24	Wednesday, April 25	Thursday, April 26
<p><b>Caregiver support meetings</b> The St. Johns County Council on Aging will host caregiver support meetings Mondays (except holidays) from noon to 1 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Memory Care Center at 1048 A1A N. For more information, call Paulette Kozlowski at (904) 209-3674 or email pkozlowski@stjohnscoa.com. The meetings will provide a supportive environment for people who are experiencing similar challenges in which they can share problems, ideas and solutions.</p> <p><b>World Book &amp; Rose Day</b> Celebrate World Book &amp; Rose Day at The BookMark on April 23. Visitors can buy a book and also receive a rose. Every year, The BookMark celebrates St. George's and World Book &amp; Rose Day by giving a rose to anyone who purchases a book. The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach. Call (904) 241-9026 for more information.</p> <p><b>The Builders Classic</b> The Builders Classic, presented by Intrepid Capital, will support affordable housing provided by the Beaches Habitat for Humanity organization and Oceanside Rotary's charitable giving program. The golf tournament will be held April 23 at the Atlantic Beach Country Club. Registration and lunch is at 11 a.m., while the shotgun start will take place at 12:30 p.m. The tournament concludes with dinner and awards. The Atlantic Beach Country Club is located at 797 Mayport Road. Visit <a href="http://www.BeachesHabitat.org">www.BeachesHabitat.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>JAAM: Japanese Anime at Main</b> Join the St. Johns County Main Branch Library for an afternoon of Japanese anime and manga from 5 to 7 p.m. Teens (age 12+) are invited to meet others with similar interests and wear a costume. Refreshments will be provided by the library. The Main Branch is located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p><b>Volunteers needed</b> Volunteers are needed at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the kitchen. The center is looking for upbeat volunteers to help with new spring and summer programs. Contact Amy Leach at (904) 209-3686 or email <a href="mailto:aleach@stjohnscoa.com">aleach@stjohnscoa.com</a> for more information. The PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p><b>Florida Blue free Tuesday</b> Every Tuesday, enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum thanks to the support of Florida Blue. Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville. The Cummer Museum's Tuesday hours are 4 to 9 p.m. No registration is required. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.cummermuseum.org">www.cummermuseum.org</a> or call (904) 356-6857.</p> <p><b>Bookmobile</b> Visit Publix at Nocatee Town Center for a Bookmobile Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The Bookmobile will feature books, movies, music and more. Publix at Nocatee Town Center is located at 120 Marketside Ave. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Family storytime and crafting</b> Join Mr. Andy and Mrs. Marcia in The Randolph Caldecott Children's Room at the Main Library April 24 at 11 a.m. for an hour of singing songs, reading stories and cool crafts. This event is open to children of all ages; materials will be provided by the Friends of the Library. The St. Johns County Main Branch Library is located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>The Night Market</b> The Night Market, taking place on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, meets the demand for locally made goods and gifts. The Night Market will host up to 90 vendors specializing in hand-made crafts and feature live entertainment and activities from 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.staugamphitheatre.com">www.staugamphitheatre.com</a></p>	<p><b>Toastmasters Club</b> Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center. These meetings help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Lucy Reep at <a href="mailto:lucyreep@gmail.com">lucyreep@gmail.com</a> for additional information.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Day Retreat</b> The Life Enrichment Day Retreat is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered daily at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email <a href="mailto:life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com">life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</a>.</p> <p><b>PV Greenway Soiree on the Veranda</b> Join the PV Greenway Alliance for hors d'oeuvres, fine wine and beer April 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. PV Greenway's mission is to create a multi-use, recreational nature-based path for safe mobility that connects popular destinations and to improve outdoor recreational opportunities in the Ponte Vedra / Palm Valley area. This event will take place at Ruth's Chris Steak House, located at 814 A1A N. Suite 103 in Ponte Vedra Beach. Search for the event on EventBrite.com using the keywords "PV Greenway Soiree" to purchase tickets.</p> <p><b>10,000 Maniacs at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall</b> 10,000 Maniacs, a pioneering 1990s alternative and college rock group, will take the stage at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall April 25 at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) Founded by Robert Buck, Dennis Drew, Steven Gustafson, John Lombardo and Natalie Merchant in the fall of 1981, 10,000 Maniacs is one of the most critically-acclaimed bands of the last 30 years. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a> or call the box office at (904) 209-0399</p>	<p><b>'Footloose' at Ponte Vedra High School</b> Ponte Vedra High School's theater department will perform "Footloose" April 26-29. The cost to attend is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Performances start at 7 p.m. on April 26-28 and 2 p.m. on April 29. Ponte Vedra High School is located at 460 Davis Park Road.</p> <p><b>Savvy Job Hunters Ministry April workshop</b> Scott Gemmill, a national recruiting and outreach program manager at NAVAIR, will provide an overview of federal employment at the Savvy Job Hunters Ministry April workshop April 26 from 9 a.m. to noon. Visitors are encouraged to come 10 minutes early to network with other job hunters and enjoy refreshments. Following the workshop, Buddy Webster from LEADERS Professional Recruiting, Inc. will review resumes. This event will take place at Christ Episcopal Church, located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Throwback Thursday: 'America's Sweethearts' at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe</b> A movie publicist deals with the messy public split of his movie's co-stars while keeping reporters at bay. All the while, a reclusive director holds the film's print hostage. This film is showing at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe at noon. Admission costs \$10 and includes a meal, popcorn and a small drink. The Corazon Cinema and Cafe is located at 36 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Farm Swap and Music Jam</b> Enjoy music from local musicians while shopping for farm-fresh produce at the Florida Agricultural Museum. This event, taking place at 7900 Old Kings Road N. in Palm Coast from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., will feature musicians, singers and songwriters of folk, bluegrass, old time, fiddle, country and blues performing while vendors offer fruits, nuts, arts and more.</p> <p><small>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to <a href="mailto:ben@opcfla.com">ben@opcfla.com</a>, post online at <a href="http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com">www.pontevedrarecorder.com</a> using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</small></p>

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## NOCATEE RESIDENT WINS BICYCLE DRAWING, PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT NATIONAL MS SOCIETY



Bill Davis (left), a Nocatee resident, recently rode off a winner in the fifth annual Bogey Grille beach cruiser drawing, supporting the North Florida Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society. Proceeds from the event will benefit the more than 18,000 people impacted by MS and living in the North Florida area. Pictured with Davis are Michelle Kelleher, also of Nocatee, and MS volunteer and Bike MS team captain Bruce Reid of Ponte Vedra Beach. This year's Bike MS PGA TOUR Cycle to the Shore is scheduled for Oct. 13-14, a two-day ride from Ponte Vedra to Daytona Beach and back for riders of all levels. More than 850,000 cyclists/fundraisers are projected to ride in Bike MS events across America this year.

Photo courtesy of Bruce Reid



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Photo by Samantha Logue

**Bolles students learn about shells, sharks' teeth and more on a field trip to Mickler's Beach.**

# Bolles students learn and explore at Mickler's Beach

**By Samantha Logue**

Last week, students of The Bolles Lower School in Ponte Vedra Beach spent two days learning about the ocean firsthand at Mickler's Beach. The field trips, which took place April 12-13, included various hands-on activities that allowed the kids to learn through interaction with the beach environment.

"The beach day is about taking the classroom outside of the classroom and onto the beach," said Amy Coles, who teaches reading and language arts. "The related arts teachers were each in charge of finding a fun, educational activity for [the students] to do outside on the beach that were related to the beach as well."

**BEACH** continues on **Page 12**

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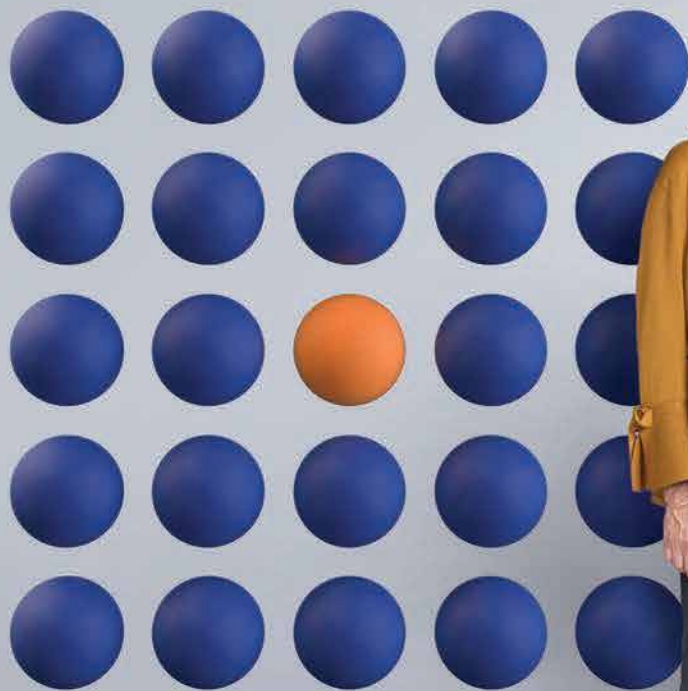
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# Drew named Bolles associate head of school

Bolles' incoming President and Head of School Tyler Hodges recently named Mike Drew to the position of associate head of school. Drew, who has been the Bolles middle school head for the past year, will assume Hodges' former role this summer.

Drew's selection follows an international search that yielded applications from more than 130 professionals representing 35 states and three countries—all with varied academic backgrounds and from schools all over the world.

"Our search ultimately led us home, and I am happy to announce we completed our search and selected Mike Drew for this position," Hodges said, adding the applicant pool included candidates with experience at local schools, Florida schools outside of Jacksonville, schools outside of Florida, international schools and several university-level schools including Loyola University Maryland, the University of Maine, the University of Alaska Fairbanks and many more. "Mike understands implicitly the unique facets of a quality college preparatory education and is forward-thinking in his approach to academics."

Drew said he is eager to work with



Mike Drew

Hodges, school leadership and faculty to continue shaping Bolles' vision of academic distinction and program excellence. In his new role, Drew will be the

school's academic leader and will be responsible for the administration of faculty, curriculum, student academic affairs and programs, arts, athletics, college counseling, learning specialists and registrar functions for all grade levels, from pre-K through grade 12. Drew also will remain a presence on the Bolles Middle School Bartram Campus through the fall.

"It is an honor to serve the Bolles community in this way and I look forward to continue working with Bolles leaders, faculty and staff to build upon what already is a premiere academic experience," Drew said. "Bolles is an exceptional place and I am pleased to contribute my strengths through this position."

Drew came to Bolles from Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he was the middle school head since 2007 and served as the school's dean of sixth grade for four years prior to that. Drew worked for eight years at Friends Academy in Locust Valley, New York, as a science teacher, advisor and coach, and was ultimately named middle school assistant principal. Drew attended Cornell University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in natural resources, and he received his Master of Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Bolles leaders already have begun a national search for a middle school head and have begun reviewing top candidates.

# OPE RAISES MONEY TO HELP FEED THE HUNGRY WITH SLIMEAPALOOZA



Slimeapalooza was a success at Ocean Palms Elementary Spring Family Fun Night, raising almost \$700 to benefit The Giving Orchard at OPE. Students had the opportunity to purchase "slime" to pour on the school principal, Tiffany Cantwell, the assistant principal, Zach Strom, and the school secretary, Kerry Fodor. The fifth-grade Ambassadors were trying to raise money to purchase two orange trees for The Giving Orchard, exceeding their goal of \$225 by almost \$500. The oranges from the Giving Orchard trees will be donated to the hungry in the community, and the remaining money will be donated to another cause voted on by the Ambassadors.

Photo courtesy of Susan Samko



Photo by Samantha Logue

Kids use beach towels to toss volleyballs back and forth.

## Beach

Continued from 11

Activities included a photographic scavenger hunt, beach art, science and exploration, story time, sand castle-building and a game that involved using beach towels to catch and toss volleyballs. The pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students rotated from station to station, ensuring each child had the opportunity to try all activities.

"This is a special thing," science teacher Carolyn Houston said. "We've been to the beach twice this year, and

they absolutely love it. It's a nice way to spend the day, and our beaches are so amazing that it's hard not to teach about them."

Houston, who helped to organize the event, said she felt the students benefited from the experience in multiple ways.

"I actually think they learn more from the hands-on, interactive experiences than from me teaching about the stuff in the classroom," she said. "They walk away with the knowledge and the understanding, and have, hopefully, a little more respect for our natural world and this particular, very special environment that we live in."

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# Sand

Continued from 5

was seriously undermined by last year's hurricane season and the property needed a rebuilt dune. Aitkens learned of a local study showing that beach scraping was an effective way to protect properties without harming the beach, Brightman said. Other residents in the area did the same type of work, Brightman added, without any investigation or penalties imposed by the DEP.

Brightman noted that Aitken used small Bobcats to move small amounts of sand in front of his home – which sparked the DEP's investigation. Following hurricanes Matthew and Irma, Brightman said the agency provided no guidance to Aitken on how to restore protective dunes.

Furthermore, Aitken's lawyer argued that the Ponte Vedra Beach residents did not "steal" sand from the beach. He noted that property owners placed the sand

in front of their homes at a great expense before it got washed down the beach due to inclement weather. With hurricane season approaching again, Brightman said coastal homeowners are at risk and need to protect their property.

Brian Wright, the vice president of public relations & communications at Web.com, said David Brown is in talks with the DEP and fully prepared to work with the department regarding the matter. The Recorder was unable to get in touch with the other residents.

Meanwhile, Miller said the agency wants corrective actions and restoration activities to protect the beach, dune system and private properties while complying with Florida's environmental rules and regulations. According to Miller, the department is committed to assisting homeowners recover from hurricane-related impacts "as quickly as possible."

A DEP source also said the department met with the property owners and is evaluating the next steps to take in its investigation.

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Photo courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

**Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is hosting a shredding event and food drive on Saturday, April 21.**

## Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR to host free shredding event and food drive April 21

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty (HSFNR) will hold a free, curbside shredding event and food drive on Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the company's Mandarin/St. Johns office located at 11576 San Jose Blvd. in Jacksonville.

Community members are welcome to bring personal documents and sensitive materials, which will be securely shredded free of charge by First Coast Shredding during the event. Families may bring up to 10 boxes or bags of materials to be destroyed.

Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR is requesting everyone bring at least one non-perishable food item for every box or bag of materials to be shredded. All food donations will go to Feeding Northeast Florida, a regional food bank network.

"Identity theft and fraud are serious problems that can be avoided if you securely dispose of confidential documents and sensitive materials," said Berkshire

Hathaway HSFNR Broker/Executive Vice President Christy Budnick. "This is the perfect opportunity for us to help protect the community from the risk of identity fraud and stock our local food banks – a win-win!"

Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR's Mandarin/St. Johns office is located on San Jose Boulevard north of Loretta Road. The office hosted its first shredding event last year and collected more than 10,000 pounds of materials from more than 350 vehicles.

"Our first shredding event a year ago was a tremendous success and we encourage everyone to visit us again this year," Broker/Manager Christine Scalf said. "We are grateful that we can offer these important services to the community we serve."

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, visit [www.FloridaNetwork-Realty.com](http://www.FloridaNetwork-Realty.com).

## Local barber shop makes a difference at St. Francis House homeless shelter

The King's Chair Barber Club in St. Augustine recently visited St. Francis House homeless shelter for a community charity event entitled "Haircuts for the Homeless," at which the barbers shop ultimately gave haircuts to 50 St. Francis House clients.

"Sometimes all it takes is a fresh new look to change a person's outlook on themselves," said Candice Bowman, St. Francis House marketing director, "and you can tell this happened with every guest that got out of their chairs with a stylish new cut. They all looked so good and were beaming with pride."

St. Francis House is St. Johns County's housing crisis center providing the local

homeless population with temporary housing and programs to help them find their way back to independence. Programs focus on helping clients establish a sustainable income and find permanent housing; getting clients ready to move forward can start with a simple haircut.

"We are so thankful to have the Kings Chair donate their time," said Karen Hensel, St. Francis House assistant director. "This service helps give the confidence to our clients that they need to move forward. We couldn't be happier with the event. We hope to continue the relationship with the Kings Chair and inspire other future local partners within the community."

## S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue pairing students with shelter dogs in mutually beneficial program

S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue is seeking student candidates to foster and train a shelter pet while fulfilling/receiving 100 qualifying community service hours for school, church, scouting, etc.

Students in the program will foster a shelter dog in their home for six weeks, taking the pet to one-hour-per-week basic obedience training class (paid for and arranged by S.A.F.E.) in their area to be held on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. Each student will write a report about his or her experience, will make recommendations for the type of home best suited for the dog and will create instructions for utilizing the trained pet's commands.

Benefits of the program are:

- The student receives community service hours while gaining the experi-

ence and responsibility of training a dog.

- A trained animal will be available to potential adopters.

- The dog receives the undivided attention from the student and temporarily lives in a loving home while awaiting adoption and learning obedient behaviors.

The program is open to Ponte Vedra/Nocatee or nearby areas, St. Augustine and Putnam County students. Parental permission and involvement is required.

For more program regulations and details, or to register as a participant in the program, contact program coordinators Lisa Wargo at (914) 420-5769 for Nocatee; Peggy Laroche at (904) 710-4632 for St. Augustine; and Kathy Kelshaw at (904) 806-2166 for Putnam County.

## 16th Annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show set for Sept. 9 in Nocatee

The St. Johns County (SJC) Chamber of Commerce will host the 16th Annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show presented by Fields Auto Group on Sunday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Nocatee.

The Auto Show, which is open and free to spectators, will feature up to 180 classic and new collectors' cars vying for the show's 30-plus trophies, including a few additional special awards for "Best in Show" 70th anniversary of the Porsche

356, "Best in Show" 50th anniversary of the Subaru, "Best in Show" 40th anniversary of the Mazda RX-7 and "Best in Show" 60th anniversary of the Austin Healey.

"We are thrilled to have Fields Auto Group as the presenting sponsor for what will be a very special event this year," said Isabelle Renault, president of the SJC Chamber.

This will be the event's third year in

Nocatee, although at a new location this year. The 2018 Auto Show will be held in a large open field between Nocatee's Splash Park and soon-to-be-unveiled Spray Park.

"Fields Auto Group is proud to partner with the 2018 Ponte Vedra Auto Show," said Garry Redig, vice president of operations of Fields Auto Group. "This will be an exciting event showcasing some of the best in the history of the automotive industry. We are looking forward to a great show

at a spectacular new location in Nocatee."

To find out more or to register an automobile in the auto show, visit [www.pvautoshow.com](http://www.pvautoshow.com) or call the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach (PVB) Division at (904) 285-2004. Automobile registration is \$35 per vehicle to pre-register.

The 2018 Ponte Vedra Auto Show is funded in part by the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council.



## Nocatee Happenings

**RIGHT: Participants compete in the K-9s United running events held on Saturday, April 14 in Nocatee.**

**LOWER RIGHT: K-9s United founder Debbie Johnson gets acquainted with K-9 Luna of the Jasper County Sheriff's Office in South Carolina and his partner, Officer John Mitaly, at the 5K/9K fundraiser in Nocatee.**

Photos courtesy of Roy Bode



# Hundreds flock to Nocatee for K-9s United running events

Nearly 600 runners and hundreds of spectators helped K-9s United raise an estimated \$40,000 on Saturday, April 14, at its annual morning of 5Ks, 9Ks and “fun runs” in Nocatee.

The Jacksonville-based nonprofit organization provides support and equipment for K-9 law enforcement officers, their partners and departments. About 10 K-9 handlers and 15 K-9 officers attended this year’s fundraiser. John Mitaly of the Jasper County Sheriff’s office in South Carolina brought his K-9 partner, Luna, and even ran in the 5K. Complete results for the races can be found at [my2.raceresult.com/95182/results?lang=en](http://my2.raceresult.com/95182/results?lang=en).

Debbie Johnson founded the charity after Baron, a St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office K-9 officer, was killed in the line of duty in 2014. According to Johnson, the organization’s initial priority was to help Florida law enforcement officers develop safe and

effective K-9 programs, but as its base of support has grown, the organization has been able to extend elsewhere in the country. Its most recent donations went not only to the police department in Lawtey, Florida, but also to agencies in Archie, Missouri, and Montville, Connecticut.

“Every officer should have what’s essential to serve, protect and thrive,” Johnson said. “Sadly, just last week, we saw a Massachusetts officer killed and his K-9 partner critically wounded in the face and neck by a man with a history of more than 100 arrests.

“We can’t eliminate all the dangers our law enforcement heroes face on the street, but we want to eliminate every risk to their safety we can,” she continued. “We can’t do that without our supporters and we appreciate every donation to our mission, large or small.”

Visit [www.k9sUnited.org](http://www.k9sUnited.org) for more information.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Nocatee Farmers Market: Cruisin’ Car Show**  
**Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**Swim Club Green**

Nocatee’s monthly Farmers Market invites the community to enjoy a day of fun with the Cruisin’ Car Show. This event will feature a classic car show by Sunshine State Chevelles, highlighting a variety of vintage cars of all makes and models. The Farmers Market features over 80 local vendors every month, selling everything from fresh produce, to crafts, jewelry, herbs, unique foods and more. Free face painting will also be available for little ones, along with crafts and a bounce house. In addition, the bar will be open for beer and wine purchases.

**Bubbles & Barks Doggie Wash Extravaganza**  
**Saturday, April 28 from 9 a.m. to noon**  
**Watson Realty Corp.**

To be held at the Watson Realty Corp. office at 205 Markerside Ave. in Nocatee Town Center, the Bubbles & Barks Doggie Wash Extravaganza will be a family fun event for all ages benefiting the Friends of the St. Johns County Pet Center (FOSJPC). All domestic breeds from puppies to seniors are invited. Dogs attending the event should be tolerant of other dogs, crowds and bathing. The event will also feature raffle drawings, food and beverages, vendors and free giveaways and the opportunity to adopt a furry friend. If the event is rained out, it will be postponed to Saturday, May 5.

**Roscolusa Songwriters Festival**  
**Saturday, April 28 from 5-10 p.m.**  
**Swim Club Green**

Roscolusa is returning to Nocatee for the 7th Annual Songwriters Festival. At this event, attendees not only get to hear hit songs, but also the stories behind them. Guests will also be able to enjoy drinks from the bar, food from food trucks, a play area for kids and a teen zone.

**Buckle UP! Car Seat Safety Check**  
**Wednesday, May 2 from 4-5:30 p.m.**  
**REMAX Unlimited Nocatee**

REMAX Unlimited Nocatee will present a free, car seat safety check for the public at its new office location at Nocatee Town Center, located at 158 Markerside Ave. in Ponte Vedra. The St. Johns County Tax Collector Office will bring its Project Buckle Up Program to the parking lot of Nocatee Town Center, across from the REMAX Unlimited Nocatee office. Nationally-certified technicians will assist parents and caregivers with the inspection and proper installation of child safety seats.

### OBITUARIES

#### Betty Stroker

Betty Stroker (Drack), 94, died and quietly departed this life April 12, 2018, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. She was born on Sept. 23, 1923, in Hackensack, New Jersey, daughter of Marjorie and Clarence Roy Long. Betty was a believer in Christ and was a faithful attendee of Sawgrass Chapel in Ponte Vedra Beach for more than 30 years.

She was united in marriage to Robert Drack until his death in 1986, and Robert Stroker until his death in 2010. Her grandchildren described her as loving, selfless, determined, thoughtful and generous. To say she will be missed is an understatement. Her beautiful life will forever be cherished in the lives of her children, Kathleen Dimmick, Robert Drack and Janet Conwell; her grandchildren, Jason Conwell, Gavin Conwell (who preceded

her), Ryan Dimmick and Samantha Dimmick; and her great-grandchildren, Becca and Emma Conwell.

Services were held in the Card Room at Vicar’s Landing in Ponte Vedra Beach, Monday, April 16, at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please send any donations to Sawgrass Chapel, P.O. Box 3205, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004.

#### Kathleen Taaffe

Kathleen Ann Maher Taaffe, 74, died on April 7, 2018. Kathy was born Nov. 2, 1943, in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. She graduated from Rhode Island Hospital School of Nursing and was a registered nurse for 15 years at Kent County Hospital. Kathy married Robert “Kevin” Taaffe in 1964, and

they began their family in Warwick, Rhode Island. In 1978, Kathy and Kevin moved their family to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where they lived for 40 years together.

Over the past 20 years, Kathy’s favorite times were spent vacationing with her fam-

ily in Longboat Key, Florida. She loved the crystal blue water, salty air and the sand on her feet, but not as much as having her husband, four children and six grandchildren all together each year.

Kathy, or “Nannie” to the family, was a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend to many. She is survived by her devoted husband of almost 54 years, Kevin Taaffe; her four children, Anne T. Few, Christopher F. Taaffe (Daniel Sladek), Monica M. Heron (David) and Patrick K. Taaffe (Tina); and her six grandchildren, Kaitlyn Few, Lauren Heron, Makenzie Few, Conner Heron, Marshall Few Jr. and Haley Taaffe. She is also survived by her sibling Jacqueline Camp (Jerry); her brother and sisters-in-law, Paul and Karen Robinson, Dorothy Taaffe and Joan Taaffe; and many nieces and nephews. Kathy also had a special “sisterhood” with her many friends from “Christ Renews His Parish” at Our Lady Star of the Sea for several years.

A Memorial Mass to celebrate Kathy’s life was held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 545 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL at 11 a.m. on Monday, April 16, 2018. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Community Hospice and Palliative Care,

4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257.

Please visit the online tribute at [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre  
 3600 Third Street South (904)249-1100

#### Antonia Gonzalez

Antonia Marie Gonzalez, 82, died April 10, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedra-valley.com](http://www.pontevedra-valley.com).

#### Orrin Hall

The Rev. Orrin Hall, 92, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died April 8, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

#### Karen Rose

Karen K. Rose, 80, of Jacksonville, died April 11, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.



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**Christ Episcopal Church Preschool student Katie Rueger gathers with her grandparents during the school's Grandparents Day on Wednesday, April 11.**

Photos courtesy of Christ Episcopal Church Preschool

## Christ Church Preschool holds Grandparents Day

Christ Episcopal Church Preschool students received a special visit from their grandparents last week when the school held Grandparents Day on Wednesday, April 11.

Grandparents first visited the classroom, then walked the children to the chapel and later attended a special reception in the Parish Hall. The event lasted a little over two hours.

Christ Episcopal Church Preschool is located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. Dedicated to providing a



**Christ Episcopal Church Preschool student Calvin Zalupski gathers with his grandparents.**

warm, loving, Christian environment, the local preschool is designed to nurture the child's growth as an independent individual with respect not only for self but for others. Visit [www.christepiscopalchurch.org/connect/community/christ-church-preschool](http://www.christepiscopalchurch.org/connect/community/christ-church-preschool) for more information.



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# Opioid

Continued from 5

revealed, St. Johns County Fire Rescue treated 180 overdose patients with Narcan, a medication used to counteract the effects of an opioid overdose. In addition, 63 babies in the county were born addicted to opioids in 2016, according to the video, and 35 people died from opioid overdoses in 2017.

“This is a phenomenon that none of us could have predicted,” said Sheriff Shoar after the video concluded. “This problem is an equal opportunity problem. White, black, rich, poor. I don’t care where you sit.”

Forson echoed Shoar’s sentiments, explaining that the problem is affecting all members of the family, not just teenagers or young adults. As a result, he said it’s incumbent upon community residents to support each other, and avoid the mindset of “not my kids, not my problem.” In addition, Forson stressed the importance of education and intervention at a young age.

Captain Coy also addressed education, or the lack thereof, noting that several people in the community don’t know what to do with pain medications when they no longer need them. To confront this problem, Coy said the Florida National Guard has worked with PACT to create magnets identifying locations of prescription pill drop boxes in St. Johns County. Five such locations exist in the county, he said, at the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office substations, the St. Augustine Beach Police Department and St. Augustine Police Department.

Kelley also emphasized the importance of education, encouraging event attendees to be honest with their children at a young age.

From a medical perspective, Dr. Graves said a culture shift must take place to reverse the epidemic. When she first started out in pharmacy 25 years ago, the school of thought was to treat pain with painkillers in abundance. Now, Graves said the medical community understands how wrong that was and must change the culture not only in the health care system but also with those people who have been treated by the health care system.

Andrade noted that in 2017, Flagler Hospital transferred out seven pediatric overdoses to Wolfson Children’s Hospital. She said Flagler has started an opioid stewardship program with an interdisciplinary council charged with addressing what can be done to address the epidemic. Thanks to recent legislation, she said anyone who now comes to the emergency

department seeking pain medication will be provided with only three days of medications. Andrade noted it takes six days to become addicted to such medications. Overall, though, Andrade said the medical and treatment community in St. Johns County doesn’t currently have enough resources to adequately address the epidemic.

Following comments from the panelists, Drug Free Duval Executive Director Susan Pitman concluded the evening with a presentation on the impacts of opioids and proposed next steps.

For more information on PACT Coalition, visit [www.pactprevention.org](http://www.pactprevention.org) or contact PACT Coalition Director Bridget Heenan at [BridgetPACT@yahoo.com](mailto:BridgetPACT@yahoo.com).

# Marsh Landing Harbour Island Open Houses

Saturday, April 21st | 12pm-3pm



### 24632 Harbour View Drive

Created for this site on a peaceful Intracoastal Waterway tributary, this cheerful, bright 5-br + office home invites the outside in with pocketing sliders & architecturally-designed windows. There are 4 distinct areas for sharing each other's company: the true media room, upstairs family/game room & balcony, downstairs kitchen/family room (which opens to the summer kitchen & dining, spectacular pool & cabana bath) and the 2-story living room with the finest finishes. **\$2,195,000**

Clare Berry  
904-382-5875



### 121 Annapolis Lane

Rare opportunity providing multiple panoramic views! Built on one of the few waterfront corner lots with over 300ft of waterfront in the exclusive Harbour Island. This private Mediterranean home was designed with the intracoastal waterway as the defining element. Avid navigators welcome as there is an existing 40' boat slip adjoining the property. **\$1,695,000**

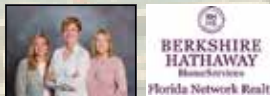
Elizabeth Hudgins  
904-553-2032



### 24716 Harbour View Drive

This European-inspired estate home in Marsh Landing’s Harbour Island is approximately 7,391 sq. ft. on almost 1.5 acres with 6 bedrooms and 8 baths. The resort-style outdoor living spaces include an infinity pool and spectacular water views. **\$2,450,000**

The Lisa Barton Team  
904-705-1382



### 104 Newport Lane

An entertainer’s dream, this 5BR/6BA/2HBA, 6007sf estate home is situated on Cabbage Creek inside the exclusive Harbour Island of Marsh Landing. The outdoor oasis features a dock with Intracoastal access and stunning marsh views, 44’ pool, summer kitchen, covered cabana area plus at 50 ft boat slip in the marina. Steel enforced concrete block construction. **\$1,900,000**

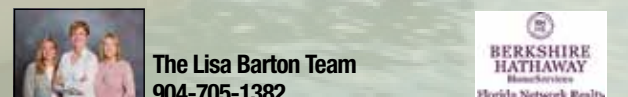
Katie Hughes  
904-237-6083



### 24586 Harbour View Drive

This villa in Marsh Landing’s Harbour Island was completely renovated in 2007 and boasts 4 bedrooms, 3 full and 1 half bath, a gourmet kitchen, screened courtyard, spacious guesthouse, fabulous pool and natural marsh views. Includes a 50-foot slip-in yacht basin. **\$1,598,000**

The Lisa Barton Team  
904-705-1382



# FEMA

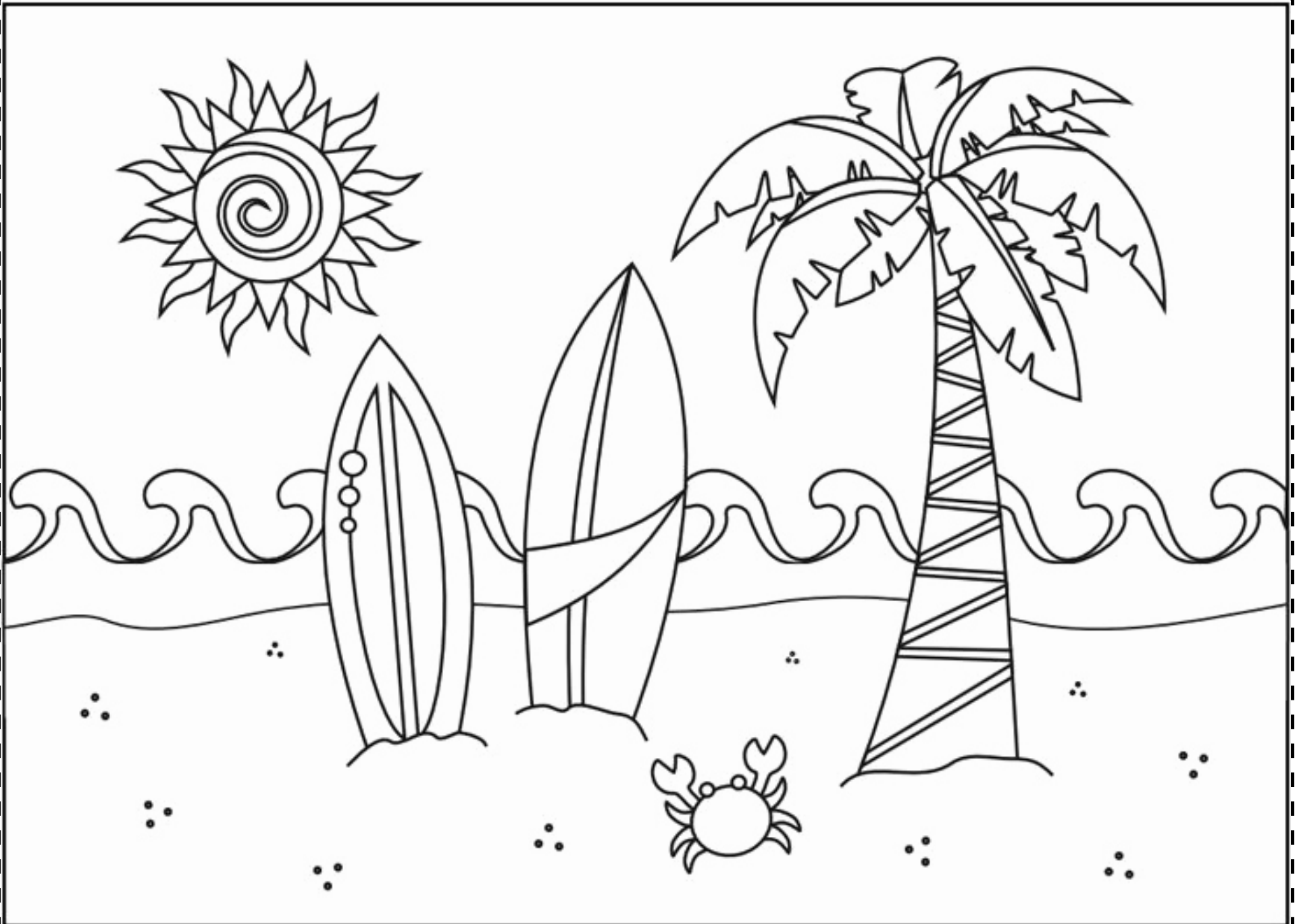
Continued from 5

St. Johns County is one of 18 counties designated under the presidential declaration due to the extent of damage caused by Hurricane Matthew. To date, FEMA has obligated more than \$244 million to the state as a result of damage from Hurricane Matthew under the Public Assistance program.

Additional information about FEMA’s Public Assistance program can be found at [www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit](http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit).



# SUMMER FUN



Contest open to children ages 3-12 and will be judged in 3 categories: 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12.  
 Winners will receive a family four-pack of tickets to The Crayola Experience in Orlando, FL!  
 Our office must receive all entries by Friday, May 25th

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMER FUN** *Coloring Contest*

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# Home Design & Remodeling



**The 2018 Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices Home & Art Tour, produced by the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, will feature four homes within Marsh Landing, The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach and one oceanfront home.**

Photos courtesy of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

## Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices Home & Art Tour to be held April 21

The 2018 Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices Home & Art Tour, produced by the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach (CCPVB), is coming up this weekend on Saturday, April 21.

The annual CCPVB event offers patrons an opportunity to see some of Ponte Vedra Beach's most beautiful homes, while also raising funds for the nonprofit organization and CCPVB programs like Sound Connections, which provides music therapy for children with special needs.

"This year's tour features four exquisite homes that promise to lend new inspiration to our patrons," said Jennifer Sartiano, director of development for the Cultural Center. "We are incredibly grateful to generous home owners that open their homes to foster awareness and support of the center's art education and music therapy programs."

**TOUR** continues on **Page 21**

## Harbour Island open houses set for April 21

By Jon Blauvelt

On the same day of the Cultural Center's home tour, a group of local real estate agents are hosting a series of open houses in Marsh Landing's Harbour Island community.

"We decided collaboratively with several agents from different brokerage firms to open Harbour Island for an open house to the public, which I don't think has been done before," said Katie Hughes, realtor at the McAfee Hughes Group RE/MAX Specialists PV. "We were trying to coordinate it with the Ponte Vedra Cultural Center Home Tour on the same day, just because we know there are a lot of buyers coming out for that home tour."

To be held Saturday, April 21 from noon to 3 p.m., the Harbour Island open houses will feature listings from Hughes, Elizabeth Hudgins and the Lisa Barton Team with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty and Clare Berry with Berry & Co. Real Estate. Tours

will take place at the following addresses:

- 24632 Harbour View Drive
- 121 Annapolis Lane
- 24716 Harbour View Drive
- 104 Newport Lane
- 24586 Harbour View Drive

Harbour Island, explained Hughes, is a unique section of Marsh Landing that affords residents the ability to have quick and convenient access to the Intracoastal Waterway, even at low tide. Most homes, she said, have slips in the harbor that range between 40-60 feet. Most of the properties are larger lots with estate-sized homes, with several located along Cabbage Creek and other inlets, she added.

Hughes explained that agents will be posted at each house to speak with guests about the properties. The gate to the community will be open so people can drive in freely.

"It [the open houses] allows a unique opportunity to be able to access that area and drive through and see how unique it is," said Hughes.



**ABOVE: 104 Newport Lane in Marsh Landing's Harbour Island community**

Photo courtesy of Katie Hughes



**ABOVE: 121 Annapolis Lane in Marsh Landing's Harbour Island community**

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Hudgins

**LEFT: 24586 Harbour View Drive in Marsh Landing's Harbour Island community**

Photo courtesy of the Lisa Barton Team





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# Create a teen-friendly space at home

Teenagers are busier than ever before, but even the busiest teens need places to unwind and relax with friends. Many parents aspire to create that type of environment in their homes but don't know where to begin.

Parents who want to keep teens nearby can create hangout spaces at home that make it easy for teens to feel comfortable with their friends. These "teen caves" can be private but permit supervision when necessary. With a few modifications, it's possible to transform a room in a home into a teen-friendly hangout space.

■ **Talk to your children.** Involve teens in the process of renovating a home to create a spot in which they would like to congregate. Talk about elements they would like to see in the space, whether it be a particular design style, technology or activity.

■ **Establish a shared budget.** Paint is inexpensive and can transform just about any room in a single afternoon. If the room being renovated is the teen's own bedroom, allow him or her to choose the color palette and other accents. Even if it isn't to your taste, he or she will be proud of the results and may want to share it with friends.

■ **Have a snack station.** Some teenagers always seem to be hungry, and hanging out with friends while enjoying food is a popular pastime. When renovating a room



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

into a teen cave, find a way to make food a focus. Install a mini-refrigerator and non-alcoholic bar where kids can serve snacks to friends. Think about a space you would like as an adult and modify it to be more accommodating to teenagers.

■ **Add more seating.** Having friends over means having enough seating to handle a small crowd. Beanbags, cushioned benches, a daybed, modular seating and more can ensure everyone has a place to sit.

■ **Make a private outdoor spot.** Teen

spaces do not need to be restricted to the indoors. Design advice site Houzz said an outdoor escape zone that includes comfortable seating in a private area - particularly a spot that can also be enjoyed into the evening - will be a coveted spot.

■ **Invest in "indestructible" materials.** Teenagers are bound to make messes, and having other people over means contending with a certain measure of damage. Design the space with indoor-outdoor carpeting, water-resistant fabrics, distressed wood and other durable materials.

## Tour

Continued from 19

The Home & Art Tour will start at the Cultural Center, located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach, with a breakfast provided by KC's Kitchen from 9-10 a.m. Lasting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., this year's tour features homes within Marsh Landing, The Plantation at Ponte Vedra and one oceanfront home.

"We are hopeful that by starting the tour with breakfast at the Cultural Center that it will elevate the awareness of our program offerings and our event rental space and artistic studios," said Sartiano. "Annually, nearly 1,000 community members turn out for this extraordinary event that showcases how vital collective efforts are in building a vibrant community."

Refreshments will be available at each of the four houses. Two will have non-alcoholic drinks including lemonade and water. The other two houses will feature a new drink tasting compliment of Carrera Wine Cellar and St. Augustine Distillery.

The tour will also include a VIP option, which kicks off early and allows certain guests to begin touring an hour before patrons with general admissions tickets.

Tickets and VIP Passes are available online at ccpvb.org.

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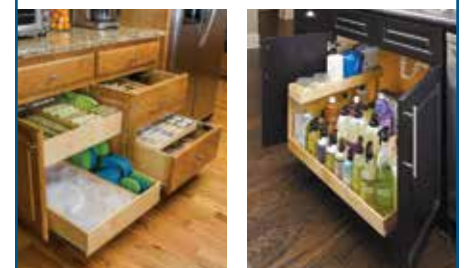
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# Tips for surviving a home renovation

Whether one is doing a large renovation or a small remodel, life may be turned upside down during a home renovation.

Furniture may be moved out of the room, walls may be demolished, water or electricity may be turned off and appliances may be missing or not hooked up. Such projects can try the patience of any homeowner, and things may get worse before they get better.

However, even though remodeling can be taxing, the end result is often worth it. Here's how to look forward to the silver lining and come out unscathed.

## Discuss the project before it starts

All family members should be in agreement before the first hammer is swung. Decide on as many details as you can ahead of time and have a firm plan in place. Establish back-up choices for tiles or color schemes in case the items you want are out of stock. Trying to make decisions under duress may result in bad choices.

## Have everything in place

Before demolition even begins, have building materials bought and stored, contractors and subcontractors lined up and see what you can do to minimize the time workers need to spend in your home.

## Do one project at a time

It's tempting to want to improve as much as possible at once to maximize motivation and renovation materials. However, having no place in which to escape the mess can elevate stress levels. Do not think about renovating kitchens and bathrooms all at once, or you will not have any working fixtures for tasks like washing up.

## Expect delays

In a world where things move at lightning speeds, renovations have not gotten the memo. Home projects take lots of time and will likely take longer if you are doing the work yourself in your free time. Build lots of extra time into the project so you are not disappointed when delays happen - even when you've done your best to avoid them.

## Plan an escape zone

Construction environments can be messy, loud, smelly and a host of other unsavory adjectives. The chaos that ensues when life is turned upside down can be overwhelming, particularly for the person who spends the most time in the home while work is being done. Build escape moments into the plan and make sure everyone else at home is on board. During the real grind of the project, a night or two at a hotel may be a welcome respite.



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

**Planning, patience and an understanding of what the project entails can make home improvements easier to survive.**

# Items to help improve outdoor living spaces



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

**Outdoor kitchens are a good way to add value to a home and improve outdoor living spaces.**

The popularity of outdoor living spaces has been growing for years.

A 2014 study from the home remodeling and design platform Houzz found that 56 percent of homeowners were making updates to improve their yards for entertaining. Similarly, nearly 60 percent of architectural practices surveyed by the American Institute of Architects in 2016 said outdoor living spaces were popular features in the homes they built.

Outdoor living spaces may also be sound investments for homeowners looking to improve the resale value of their properties. According to Remodeling magazine's 2017 "Cost vs. Value" report, outdoor living spaces returned between 55 and 71 percent of homeowners' initial investments at resale.

To make the most of the space while simultaneously hoping to get as strong a return on their investments as possible, homeowners should look to create spaces that offer broad appeal and are not too personalized. The following are some popular outdoor living space features homeowners may want to consider.

## Outdoor kitchens

Outdoor kitchens allow homeowners to prepare more than just traditional backyard barbecue fare. A standalone charcoal grill in the backyard might get the job done, but a built-in gas grill complete with burners and surrounding granite countertop makes for a more functional outdoor entertaining space.

**OUTDOORS** continues on **Page 24**

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Photos courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

Painting an accent wall is an easy way to create immediate impact in a home and can be done in a short amount of time.

## Consider these home improvement projects over the weekend

Large-scale renovations can greatly affect a home, but smaller projects can yield impressive results and be completed over the course of a single weekend. If time is of the essence, these weekend or one-day projects may satisfy homeowners' desires to fix up their homes.

■ **Create an accent wall.** Painting a focal wall in a home can create a serious impact. The bonus is it will not take as long or require as many materials as painting an entire room. Accent walls frequently feature a bold color, so decide on placement and tackle this project in less than a day.

■ **Install stair runners.** Dress up hardwood stairs with decorative carpet runners. Runners come in elongated pieces of carpeting or individual pieces that can be placed on each step. If carpeting doesn't fit with the home's design, painting individual stair treads also can create visual appeal.

■ **Dress up the entryway.** An entryway is a guest's first impression of a home. Many entryways can use a minor overhaul, both inside and outside. Paint the front door a different color so it pops from the curb. Install a new mailbox or decorative house numbers. A new welcome mat can change the look as well. Inside, consider laying a new floor. Resilient vinyl tiles come in many different patterns and can mimic the look of wood, travertine or marble. Installing

a floor can take a day or two.

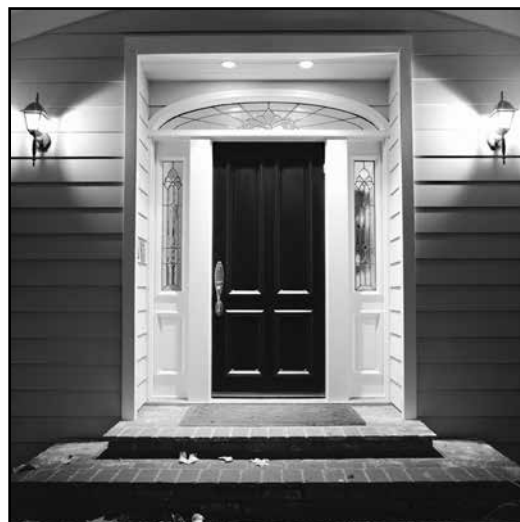
■ **Install a new faucet.** Instantly improve a kitchen or a bathroom with new fixtures. New faucets can provide aesthetic appeal, and low-flow faucets can help conserve water.

■ **Create a gallery on the staircase.** Gather and arrange framed photos, artwork or wall accents so that they ascend the wall of a staircase. This creates a designer touch and can dress up an often barren area of wall space.

■ **Install a fresh light fixture.** Improve drab spaces with a little illumination. Better Homes & Gardens suggests replacing an existing fixture with something new and vibrant. If hanging a new fixture is not within one's skill set, free-standing table or floor lamps also can cast a new glow on a space.

■ **Add molding.** Molding can add instant aesthetic appeal to a room. Molding is appropriate near the floor, at the top of walls where they meet the ceiling, or even mid-wall as a chair rail. Some homeowners like to create framed molding on walls in formal living spaces.

■ **Update kitchen or bathroom hardware.** Replacing hardware is a fast and easy project, but one that can have immediate impact. Swap out tired or outdated hardware for newer brushed metals and more impactful shapes and designs.



## Bold colors add vitality to homes

By embracing bold painting and decorating styles, homeowners can use fresh color palettes to make rooms more inviting and colorful. These popular color combinations can provide inspiration during a home renovation project.

### Green and pink

Colors on opposite ends of the color wheel will always complement each other. Green paired with pink (a lighter shade of green's opposite, red) calls to mind the great outdoors. These hues can add a touch of floral spring sunshine even when that season has long since passed. Opt for a deep green and a carnation pink for maximum impact. And don't forget a vase full of fresh blooms as the finishing factor.

### Lavender and deep blue

Analogous colors are three colors that sit side-by-side on the color wheel and share a common denominator in terms of shade. Lavender, blue and an orchid pink are examples of such hues. This cool, regal combination can add femininity to a bedroom or even drama to another space in the house. If painting the walls dark blue or lavender seems scary, opt for a neutral shade on walls and then dress up the space with inky and violet accents.

### Turquoise and brick red

Enhance the "wow" factor with these bold colors. Although they are striking, when they work together, they also can impart a soothing feel, particularly since they are often inspired by Asian influences. Feature a light turquoise sofa with red throw pillows. Or dress up meals with a red tablecloth on the dining table and turquoise, white and red, patterned place mats.

### Gray and yellow

Yellow is a pick-me-up color any time of the year, but, when combined with a gray, it's toned down to be soothing instead of startling. This color combination is popular in kitchens, nurseries and entryways. Have fun in the kitchen with mottled gray stone countertops, pale yellow walls and canary café curtains.





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## Outdoors

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### Bars

Indoor entertaining areas often include bars, so it makes sense that homeowners want to include a place to prepare and serve beverages to their guests. Homeowners with room in their budgets may want to install wet bars where they can rinse mixers, glasses and other items needed to prepare drinks for their guests.

### Warming features

Features that can keep homeowners and their guests warm after the sun sets include outdoor fireplaces and firepits. A 2016 survey conducted by the American

Society of Landscape Architects found that fireplaces and firepits were the most popular outdoor design element in 2016. Such features can provide a focal point in the backyard while also extending the outdoor living season into autumn and even early winter.

### Porch space

Outdoor living spaces are often found in the backyard, but homeowners with bigger front yards than backyards may want to expand or open their porch spaces to create more space outside. Porch swings and rocking chairs provide a great place to relax, and porch spaces are covered, meaning homeowners can continue to enjoy time outside even when it begins to rain.

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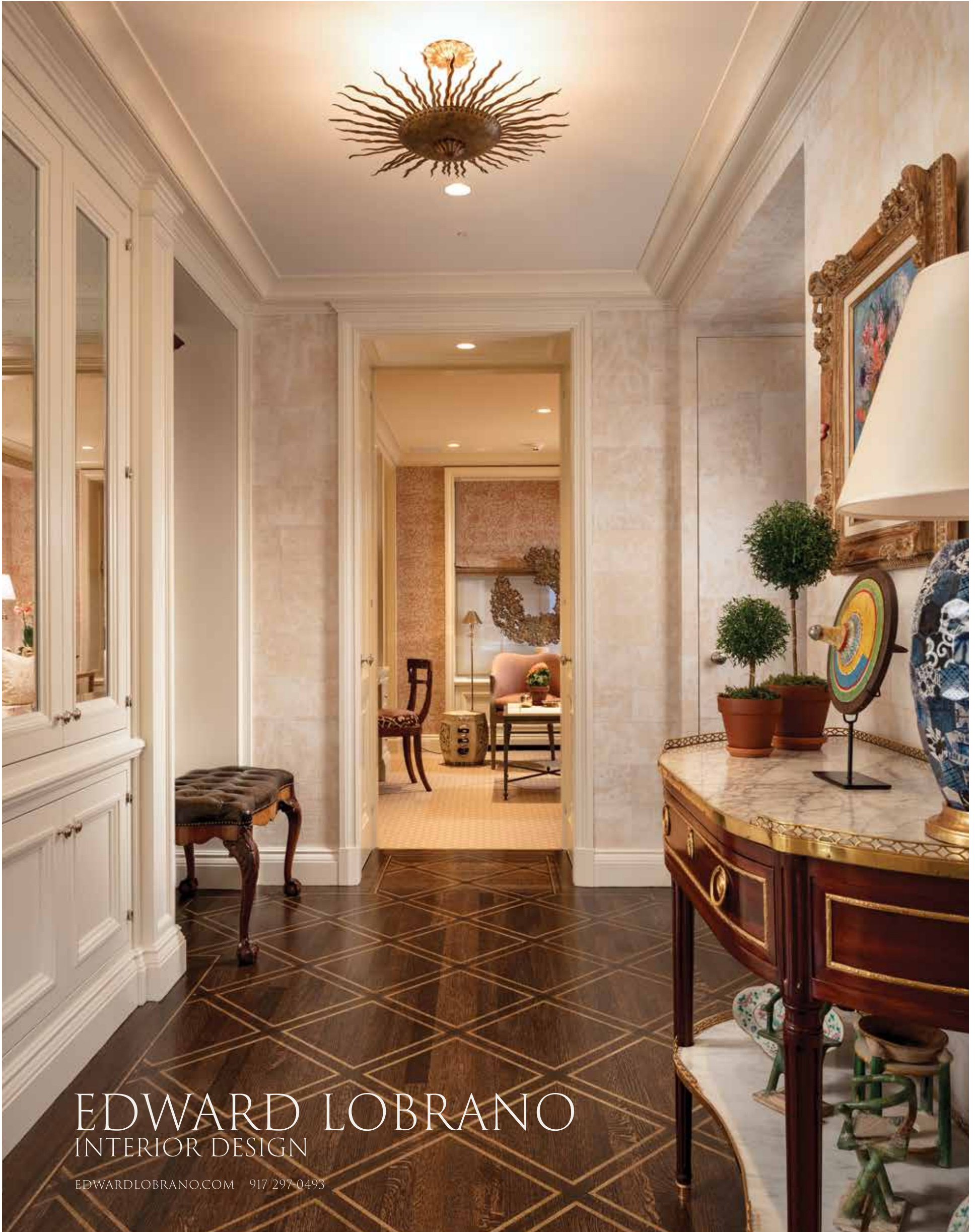
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# Business Weekly

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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018

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K9s for Warriors manager talks about to Chamber about charity's future

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## Aqua Grill celebrates 30 years of business by giving back

By Samantha Logue

On Sunday, April 15, Aqua Grill celebrated 30 years of providing “eclectic fare” with a “coastal flair” to customers in Ponte Vedra Beach by hosting a party with a purpose: giving back to the community that had made it all possible.

“It’s just an accumulation of 30 years of so many memories,” said Cary Hart, who has owned the restaurant since it first opened in 1988. “So many people have had special events here, they’ve had their kids work here, there’s been so many special moments here. We have done so many things over 30 years, and I think it’s really important that Ponte Vedra has a restaurant that’s their own, that’s not a chain restaurant. At Aqua Grill, we feel like we’re part of the fabric of this community, so we want this to be an accumulation of all the years of happiness and good times in the Ponte Vedra area.”

Held at the restaurant’s Sawgrass Village location, the party featured complimentary food, live music, an auction, raffles and more, with a crowd of both longtime and first-time patrons present to celebrate the occasion.

“We always do a party to give back,” Hart said. “This year, we’re raising (funds) for Kate Amato Foundation to fight pediatric cancer. We’re hoping to raise a nice amount of money and lighten children’s lives, and we also want to give back to our customers. The food’s complimentary, there’s a live band out there and it’s one big party.”



Photo by Samantha Logue

Aqua Grill owner Cary Hart stands with Tara Bisogno at the restaurant’s 30th anniversary celebration on April 15.

AQUA GRILL continues on Page 28

## Time to pause, reassess risk and possibly reallocate

By Harry Pappas  
Special to the Recorder



Harry Pappas  
Columnist

I suggest the following Mark Twain quote is appropriate for this relatively long and arguably very important column: “I did not have time to write a short letter. Therefore, I wrote a long one instead.”

My apology for the length of this dispatch, but what I have to say is so important that I had to consume more real estate than I or the fine people at the Recorder would have liked. Okay, enough of the chit chat; away we go.

It is hard to believe how quickly the stock market had declined during February and March (3,000 points or about 11 percent). As of this writing, we have recouped much of the significant drop in almost just as short of time! Now that is volatility! Please keep in mind that without volatility, we would have no reason to expect higher long-term gains. One thing about market corrections is eventually they will stop. The problem, of course, is figuring out when. As we know, nobody can predict whether the recent advance of the stock market signals the end to the correction or perhaps we may test the lows again.

The past few months remind me of what happened in January 2016, when the stock market got off to a terrible start, the worst in years. The putting pundits of pessimism were talking recession and bear market, only to experience a head-snapping rebound. Then, during the Brexit vote, the stock market fell 5 percent in just two days (sound familiar?), which was seen as another indicator of recession.

But, it turned out to be a great buying

PAPPAS continues on Page 27

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# Pappas

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opportunity, akin to every sell-off since March 2009. Yet, fear is a very powerful force that can drive people into very irrational behavior. My position remains the same: Just stay the course. In other words, don't do something; just stand there! I get it; it's easier said than done. Nonetheless, I know that in times like these, it is so easy for folks to lose faith in the stock market because we have scorched fingers and badly bruised confidence, especially from the 2008 stock market debacle. Therefore, I often remind clients and myself that my goal and No. 1 responsibility is not to make clients a lot of money, but instead, to reasonably control one's risk in a well-balanced, efficiently diversified and tax-smart portfolio that is prudent and cost effective.

With this methodology in mind, I want to share with you a risk-averse strategy that has been around since the mid-90s but has exploded in popularity since the 2008 stock crash and the subsequent gut wrenching stock and bond market declines. During the past decade or so, investors have discovered a unique and appealing strategy for a portion of their investment portfolio. It is called a fixed-index annuity, or an "FIA." So, what is a fixed index annuity? It is considered fixed because your account is guaranteed never to go down no matter what happens to the stock or bond markets.

Additionally, with an FIA, you essentially have two options. The first is a guaranteed one-year fixed rate. The other option is to have your yearly interest determined by the return of the stock market, measured by the S&P 500 (dividends not included) up to a "cap rate." It only makes sense that since an FIA offers us no downside risk, we will not participate in the full upside of the S&P 500 given the cap rate. For example, if we select the S&P 500 option with a cap rate of 6 percent and the market increases 8 percent during the next 12 months, we will earn 6 percent interest or the cap rate, not 8 percent. However, if the market would decline say 5 percent during the same time period, we will not share in the loss. Thus, our interest for that period is zero.

While FIAs offer several distinct advantages over stocks and bonds, they are not without their disadvantages. First and foremost is duration. Although an FIA does allow for partial withdrawals (10 percent a year), it is not as liquid or accessible in the early years, as perhaps the rest of your portfolio. Given the benefits that an FIA offers, the sponsoring company, in order to make a reasonable profit, needs to have our money for a realistic amount of time. Nevertheless, I argue that why would one want to liquidate an FIA, mainly since it offers reasonable potential growth opportunity with no downside risk?

Moreover, since I suggest that an FIA should comprise only a portion of one's assets, one should have other options if

a need presents itself to access money earlier than expected. So what are the fees for a FIA? Zero! Yes, that is correct; there are no fees unless, of course, you have an additional rider purchased, or you self-impose a surrender charge by withdrawing more than your annual 10 percent free withdrawal in the early years.

In closing, an FIA might be an excellent way to reallocate some of your money into a more secure alternative without sacrificing too much upside potential. I encourage you to speak to your financial advisor about this intriguing approach to investment management. I hope that you will take this time to pause, reassess your risk and possibly reallocate a portion of your assets to a fixed index annuity.

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## MAINSTREAM BOUTIQUE CELEBRATES 2ND ANNIVERSARY

Kimberly Pacetti, Mainstream Boutique owner Carla Miles and Christine Smith gather at Mainstream Boutique's second anniversary celebration last Friday, April 13. The event offered attendees the opportunity to drink wine, eat hors d'oeuvres and take home giveaways provided by New York Butcher Shoppe, Ruth's Chris Steak House, Beach Diner, Mary Kaye Consultant Trudy Toche, BellaVi Nail Spa and the Ponte Vedra Recorder. All weekend, the business offered 15 percent off to customers to celebrate the occasion.

Photo by Ed Johnson



## Aqua Grill

Continued from 26

The Kate Amato Foundation is a public charity that was founded last year in honor of Kate Amato, an 11-year-old girl who lost her battle with rhabdomyosarcoma, a very rare form of pediatric cancer, in November of 2016. Founded by Amato's parents – Lisa and Jeff – and family friends, the Kate Amato Foundation funds innovative pediatric cancer research with an aim of finding safer, more effective treatments.

“(Kate) was an extraordinary child, and we wanted to create something beautiful from all the pain of losing her to honor her life, build a legacy and change pediatric cancer,” Lisa Amato said. “We wanted to bring a voice to the disparities in funding between pediatric cancer and adult cancer. We wanted to advocate for these children, who need us to be their voice, and just try to make a difference.”

Amato added that Hart and Aqua Grill have been active supporters of the foundation from the start.

“Our first event was a golf tournament in November at Marsh Landing Country Club, and Cary Hart was very involved in that fundraiser,” she said. “He hosted a dinner at his restaurant the night before the golf tournament and helped to solicit golfers and sponsors. He was extraordinary—so kind, so generous, so helpful.”

In total, the proceeds from Sunday's event were \$10,250, of which \$4,500 of the funds came from a five-course dinner paired with wines that was bought by Michael and Nicole Story and Michael Panczykowski.

“It's overwhelming,” Amato said. “It's humbling, it's beautiful. The community support that we have received over the years has been extraordinary, and the community has continued to rally and support the growth of this foundation and building Kate's legacy.”



Photo by Susan Griffin

Jeff Amato, Michael and Nicole Story, Michael Panczykowski and Lisa Amato gather to celebrate Aqua Grill's 30th anniversary.

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# K9s For Warriors manager discusses organization's future, impact at Chamber of Commerce luncheon



**ABOVE:** Greg Wells, Felicia Cox, Tim Crosby, Isabelle Renault, Garry Redig, Toni Boudreaux, Brian Zehren, Brandon Starks and Christine Wier gather at the joint Chamber luncheon on Thursday, April 12 at Sawgrass Country Club.

**RIGHT:** Tim Crosby, strategic partnerships manager for K9s For Warriors, talks about the nonprofit at the Chamber joint luncheon.

Photos by Benjamin Naim



**By Benjamin Naim**

Tim Crosby, the strategic partnerships manager for K9s For Warriors, told local Chamber of Commerce members at a luncheon last week that the organization plans on opening five new campuses throughout the United States over the next seven years.

“We’re building staff, we’re building systems and we’re growing out infrastructure to reflect our nationwide footprint,” he said. “The seven-year plan is to have five new campuses around the country; they’re going to probably be targeted initially to those areas where there are military veterans, dogs and donors, and that’s probably going to be Texas and the West Coast.”

Crosby delivered these comments to members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division and JAX Chamber of Commerce Beaches Division on Thursday, April 12 at Sawgrass Country Club. He added that the nonprofit will continue to grow while remaining – at its core – a grassroots organization.

“We’re still going to be a grassroots

organization with 90 percent of our gifts coming from folks like you and me,” he said. “The scope of the problem is vast and it’s real and we need to have as many people working on it as we can.”

Additionally, Crosby played a video package featuring a testimony on how the K9s For Warriors program can change the lives of veterans in need. The K9s manager asserted that the organization not only saves lives, but points struggling veterans in the right direction by pairing them with trained canine companions.

Crosby ended his presentation by thanking attendees and commending the Ponte Vedra Beach community.

K9s for Warriors is the nation’s largest provider of service dogs for American veterans with post-traumatic stress (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI) and/or military sexual trauma (MST), as well as a member of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. The organization has rescued dogs from Florida, Georgia, Texas, California, the Carolinas and more.

For more information on the nonprofit, visit [www.k9sforwarriors.org](http://www.k9sforwarriors.org).

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# Ponte Vedra resident named office managing partner for BDO in Jacksonville

BDO USA, LLP, an accounting and advisory organization, recently appointed Ponte Vedra resident Paul Davison to the position of office managing partner for the assurance practice of BDO's Jacksonville office.

Davison's tenure with BDO began in 2016 when he joined the firm's Columbus office following 13 years with Arthur Anderson and 14 years with EY. In total, he brings more than 29 years of experience in public accounting, including 15 years as a partner.

"His technical skills and knowledge of audit methodology will lead our team of audit professionals and guide our growing assurance practice," said Neal Von Stein, tax office managing partner, about Davison.

The Ponte Vedra resident has experience with a wide range of financial statement reporting matters, including registration statement filings, merger consummations and interim and annual reporting requirements. Additionally, he possesses an extensive background in complex accounting matters, includ-



Paul Davison

ing business combinations, restructuring and complex stock-based compensation matters. From an industry standpoint, Davison helps middle-market manufacturers,

consumer products and retail companies solve complex business and operational problems. In addition, he has held an International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) certification since 2012.

"I'm already impressed with the diversity of industry and culture in Jacksonville," said Davison. "It's easy to see why our people love this city, and I intend on making a positive impact. I'm excited about the opportunities we have to match our tremendous resources with the growing business needs in Jacksonville. BDO's local market position and global strength give us a platform for continued growth in this city."



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<b>APEX THEATRE STUDIO PRESENTS "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL"</b> APRIL 27 & 28	<b>OH WONDER</b> W/ ASTRONOMYY MAY 15	<b>DON MCLEAN</b> JULY 27
<b>VICTOR WOOTEN BAND</b> W/ SINBAD MAY 1	<b>BUCKETHEAD</b> MAY 16	<b>LEE ANN WOMACK</b> SEPTEMBER 21
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<b>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS MOZART &amp; SMETANA</b> MAY 6	<b>STEVE EARLE &amp; THE DUKES</b> W/ THE MASTERSONS MAY 19	<b>GENE WATSON</b> OCTOBER 13
	<b>MATTYB</b> W/ THE HASCHAK SISTERS MAY 25	<b>INDIGO GIRLS</b> FEBRUARY 9, 2019

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Photo courtesy of Sawgrass Country Club

The Sawgrass Country Club team gathers around its Distinguished Club award, which was presented to the local club by BoardRoom magazine.

## Sawgrass Country Club earns Distinguished Club award

Sawgrass Country Club has received the Distinguished Club award, as determined by the annual Distinguished Clubs award program conducted by BoardRoom magazine.

“We’d like to congratulate Sawgrass Country Club for earning Distinguished Club status,” said John Fornaro, publisher of BoardRoom magazine. “Special recognition also goes out to Barry McDonald, general manager; the leadership team; their Board of Governors; and the entire staff for their efforts in providing an excellent member experience.”

As defined by Distinguished Clubs, “member experience” is the combination of “qualities” that a private club provides its members. It is not just the quality of service, facilities or product provided, it is also the quality of the staff and of the management, as well as the overall club governance it delivers.

“Our entire staff is committed to providing a quality experience for every member,” said McDonald. “We are very proud to have achieved this award, which further establishes Sawgrass Country Club as the premier private club in Northeast Florida.”

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Photos courtesy of Ashley Dopf

Winner of the 2017 Ocean Palms Elementary "Best in Show" award Maddy Clemons poses with art teacher Lauren Rodriguez in front of her work.

## ArtWorks 2018 to feature works of more than 150 local students

On Sunday, April 22, the Ponte Vedra Public Education Foundation (PVPEF) will host more than 150 families for ArtWorks 2018, a celebration of exceptional student art, at the Sawgrass Marriot Golf Resort & Spa.

Now in its 35th year, the annual art show will include the works of students from Nease High School, Ponte Vedra High School, Landrum Middle School, Ocean Palms Elementary, Valley Ridge Academy and PVPV-Rawlings.

An art show that acknowledges students with both natural ability and nurtured talent, ArtWorks will feature original artwork created by students throughout the school year. Works are selected by the students' art teachers, after which professional artists are then brought in to choose which pieces will be displayed in the show. More than 150 personalized certificates are presented at the event and gift certificates for

art supplies are awarded to the top art students. One student from each school will also have their artwork chosen to be framed and displayed at their school.

PVPEF is a 501(c)(3), all-volunteer organization with 100 percent of donations going directly to fund enrichments for the five Ponte Vedra public schools. The foundation's mission is to enhance public education, primarily through support of the arts in the schools as well as support of educational programs that encourage creative thinking and good character.

There are several on-going programs that the PVPEF supports annually, including professional enrichment programs, teacher mini-grants, CAAP (Children's Access to Art Program), Readers Aloud and ArtWorks. Donations to PVPEF may be mailed to: PVPEF, P.O. Box 2861, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004.



2017 Valley Ridge Academy Middle School "Best in Show" winner Tatiana Donnelly stands with art teacher Kathryn Frericks by her artwork.

## Apex Theatre Studio to present 'High School Musical' at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Apex Theatre Studio Inc., in partnership with the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, will present its second annual spring musical, "High School Musical," on Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28, at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life onstage as Troy, Gabriella and the students of "East High" must deal with issues of first love, friends and family while balancing their classes and extracurricular activities.

"We had such a wonderful response to last year's production of 'The Lion King (Jr.),' it made sense to keep the Disney vibe going," said Ian Mairs, managing director of Apex Theatre Studio.

The show features performers between the ages of 11-18 from a wide range of area schools including Ponte Vedra High School, Landrum Middle School, Palmer Catholic Academy, Nease High School,

Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and Lavilla School of the Arts.

"For a certain generation of young people, this show's songs and dance numbers are ingrained in their hearts and minds on a cellular level thanks to countless viewings of the original television production," said David Loudermilk, the show's artistic director and choreographer.

Showtimes are 8 p.m. on Friday, April 27, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 28. The approximate running time is two hours, with one 15-minute intermission. Tickets are \$25 (reserved seating) and available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Offices, ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets and by phone at (800) 745-3000.

For more information, go to [www.pvconcerthall.com](http://www.pvconcerthall.com) or [www.apextheatrejax.com](http://www.apextheatrejax.com).

## Jacksonville Symphony to perform with EarShot program, celebrate Earth Day with 'Become Ocean'

The Jacksonville Symphony will perform a concert in partnership with the EarShot program on Friday, April 20 at 8 p.m. Also this weekend, the Symphony will perform John Luther Adams' Pulitzer Prize-winning score, "Become Ocean," on Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m. to celebrate Earth Day. Both performances will be held at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in the Jacoby Symphony Hall.

EarShot enables connections between orchestras and emerging composers. Drawing from a national network of advisors and advocates, EarShot works with orchestras around the country to identify and support promising composers in the early stages of their careers. Orchestras have relied on EarShot to advise them on commissions, competitions and program design in addition to identifying composers consistent with the orchestra's artistic vision. Works being featured on the April 20 concert are written by Nicholas Bentz, Will Healy, Ursula Kwong-Brown and Meng Wang.

Written by American composer John Luther Adams, "Become Ocean" was commissioned by the Seattle Symphony and premiered in Benaroya Hall in 2013. One year later, the concert won the Pulitzer Prize for music as well as the 2015 Grammy Award for Best Classical Contemporary Composition.

The "Become Ocean" program will



Nicholas Bentz



Will Healy



Ursula Kwong-Brown



Meng Wang

start with a presentation on Jacksonville's waterways by Dr. Quinton White from Jacksonville University. For a post-concert panel discussion, White will be joined by Jacksonville Symphony Music Director Courtney Lewis; Dr. Jim Gelslechter, who serves as the program director for the University of North Florida's coastal biology program; St. Johns Riverkeeper Lisa Rinaman; and St. Augustine Mayor Nancy Shaver.

The Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts is located at 300 Water St. in Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 354-5547 or visit [www.JaxSymphony.org](http://www.JaxSymphony.org).



# Sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018 · PAGE 33

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## 17 Nease student-athletes sign letters of intent

Page 35

# Family ties: Ponte Vedra's Moritz commits to Georgia Tech to run for father's former coach

By Jon Blauvelt

Ponte Vedra cross country and track and field star Claire Moritz has officially committed to Georgia Tech to run for the same person who coached her father 25 years ago.

Moritz signed her letter of intent last week and will ultimately run for Alan Drosky, who has served as Georgia Tech's head coach of the men's and women's cross country program for 25 years and women's track and field program for 21 years. Before ascending to those positions, Drosky coached John Moritz, Claire's father, as an assistant coach of the Yellow Jackets from 1990-1993.

"It's one of those nice surprises that happens, and it comes full circle" said John Moritz, who at Georgia Tech was a junior national champion in 1990 and Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) champion in 1992 in the steeplechase.

John was the first conference champion who Drosky ever coached, and now Claire is Drosky's first second-generation student athlete. If that wasn't enough, John said Claire will also be running for an assistant distance coach who ran with John's brother.

"Claire's going to a school where she will have some connections," said John, "which is nice to know someone is looking after your kid."

Claire will join the Yellow Jackets

after an illustrious career at Ponte Vedra. She currently holds school records in track and field for the 3200M and 1600M, and she placed eighth in states for cross country this year, among many other accomplishments. The soon-to-be Yellow Jacket currently serves as a captain of the track and field team for the second straight year, after also serving as captain of the cross country team.

"We recruited Claire because of her athletic abilities and academic accomplishments," said Drosky. "We knew she would be a good fit for our team. ... I was really rooting for her to come to

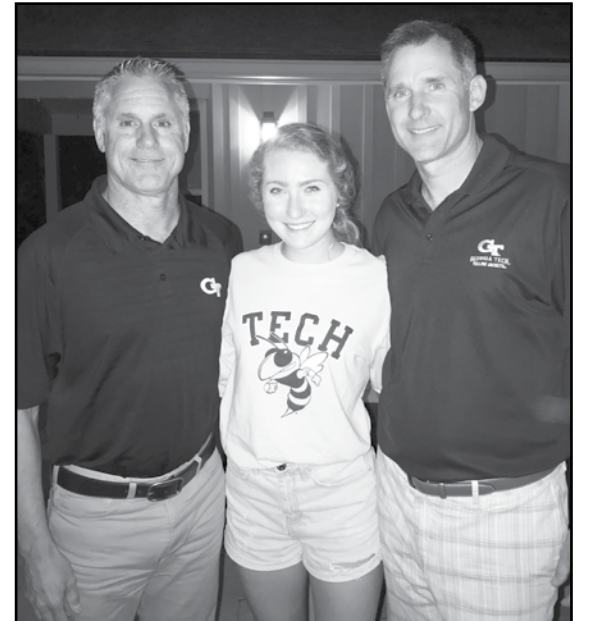


Photo courtesy of Laura Moritz

**Ponte Vedra runner and Georgia Tech commit Claire Moritz gathers with Georgia Tech cross country and track and field coach Alan Drosky (left) and father John Moritz (right), who also ran for Drosky in the early 1990s.**

MORITZ continues on Page 34

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72						73				74				

### THEME: FAMOUS PETS

#### ACROSS

- Can become herniated, pl.
- Jump key
- Popular last name in East Asia
- "I love you" or "J" \_\_\_\_\_
- International workers' group
- Like famous rock-n-roll shoe
- DNA half
- Will Ferrell's Christmas character
- Item on a cell phone bill
- \*Ed's title
- \*TV dolphin
- Coach's talk
- Gravy holder
- Hot tea amount
- Serengeti antelope
- Single-celled microorganisms
- Call status
- Karate blow
- Marconi's wireless telegraphy
- Opposite of home
- High fidelity sound systems
- CISC alternative
- Edible biblical rain
- One of deadly sins
- Ship's final destination
- Like broken promise
- Bring home the bacon
- Message in a bottle?

- Sound of laughter
- Promise to pay
- \*Michael Jackson's chimp
- \*Marlon Bundo
- Be of one mind
- Author of "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- Opposite of gregarious one
- Flash of light
- Bard's before
- \*Like Garfield's lasagna when he's done
- Surfer's stop
- Past tense of "be"
- Mouthlike opening

#### DOWN

- Morse T
- Footnote word
- Songs for one
- Like a potato chip
- The Brady Bunch children, e.g.
- Wedding cake layer
- \_\_\_\_\_ the President's Men
- Very successful
- Intersection of two arcs
- Great deal
- Drop-off spot
- \_\_\_\_\_do-well
- Bachelor on "The Bachelorette", e.g.
- Historical period
- Skedaddle
- Renewable energy source
- \*Sea World's long-running attraction
- Des Moines native

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				1				9
					8	1		
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	5		1	4				2
		7				3		
	6			3	9			7
2		4					5	8
			6	8				
	7			2				

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- Yoga class core exercise
- \*Punxsutawney seer
- Persian backgammon
- "Bye" to Banderas
- Popular '70s music genre
- \*The Clintons' cat
- Unit of force
- Leaning Tower city
- Parallel grooves
- App alternative
- Driver's aid
- Court figures
- Off kilter
- German destroyer
- Tea servings
- Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
- \*Gromit of "Wallace and Gromit"
- "Good" to Sophia Loren
- Whiskey grain, pl.
- "He's Just Not That \_\_\_\_\_ You"
- Swarm like bees
- \_\_\_\_\_ of Good Feelings
- Genetic initials

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## NEASE KNOCKS OFF ST. AUGUSTINE



Photo by Jeff Heinemann

Nease's Malory Heinemann (1) shoots on goal against St. Augustine in the Panthers' 17-12 win over the Yellow Jackets on Friday, April 13. Heinemann scored five goals in the contest.

## Moritz

Continued from 33

Georgia Tech because it would be cool to coach a former student athlete's daughter."

Claire, who is thinking about studying biochemistry to pursue a career in the medical field, said she ultimately chose Georgia Tech after connecting so well with the girls on the team and with Drosky's

staff during a visit. After living in Ponte Vedra her whole life, Claire is also excited to experience a new city like Atlanta. The family ties certainly help too, she said.

"It's definitely really cool to think about," said Claire about her family's history at Georgia Tech. "It increases my faith in the program. They [Georgia Tech] obviously know what they're doing. They've been doing it for a very long time."



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# Nease student-athletes sign letters of intent to play collegiate sports

By Benjamin Naim

Nease High School hosted a ceremony on Monday, April 16, to commemorate 17 students signing their letters of intent to play sports at colleges and universities like Jacksonville University, Gordon State College, Flagler College and Davidson College, among others.

Isaiah Zaccheo, who committed to play golf at Florida Atlantic University, said he was thankful to his family and God for helping him succeed.

“I would like to first start off by thanking God because without him I wouldn’t be where I’m at right now,” he said. “Right behind him I’d like to thank my family for all the support they’ve given me throughout the years. I greatly appreciate every bit of time, energy and effort you all have given me along the way to help me achieve my goals.”

Lauryn Albord, a volleyball player who signed a Davidson College letter of intent, said she could not have gotten a collegiate scholarship alone.

**SIGNING** continues on **Page 36**



**ABOVE:** Nease student athletes sign their letters of intent to play collegiate sports at the signing day ceremony held on Monday, April 16.

**LEFT:** Dani Anderson, who will play soccer at Jacksonville University, speaks to students, family and school faculty at Nease High School’s signing day ceremony.

Photos by Benjamin Naim

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## PVHS FALLS TO BARTRAM TRAIL



Photo by Jerry and Chris Norton

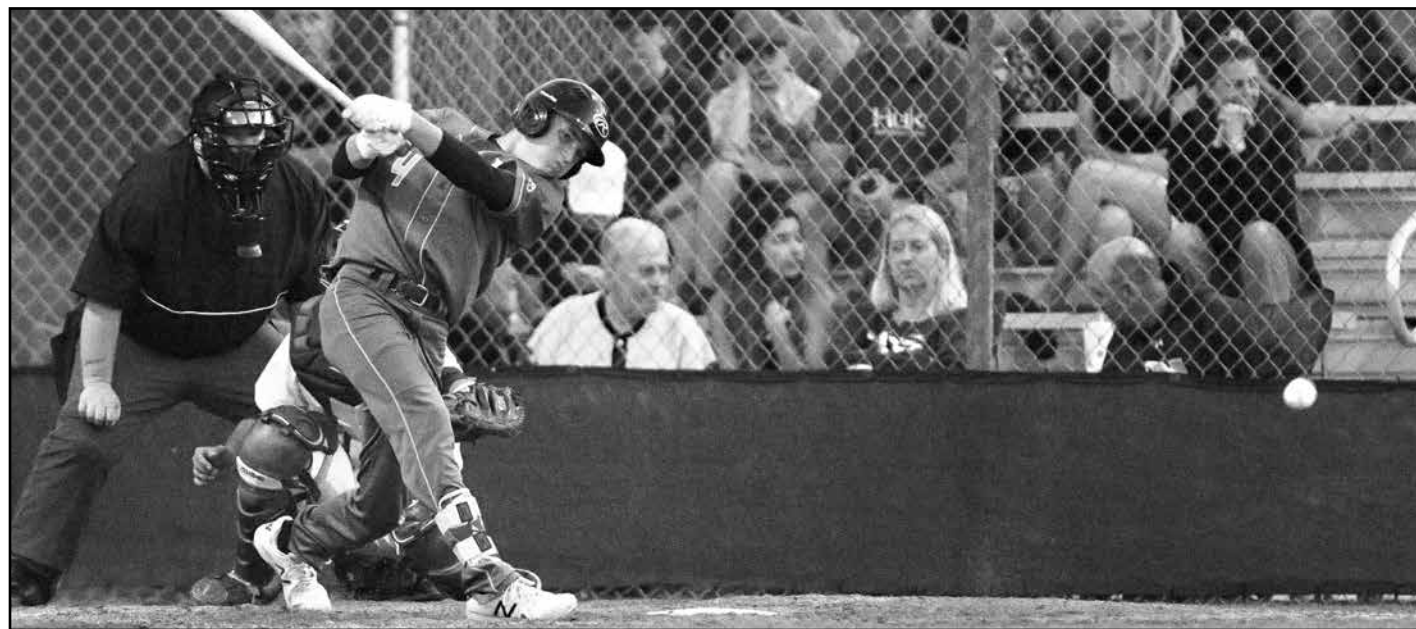
Ponte Vedra's Kylie Hennessey gets the out for the front end of a double-play attempt during the Sharks' 9-1 loss to Bartram Trail on Monday, April 16.

## SHARKS KNOCK OFF BLUE DEVILS



Photo by Jerry and Chris Norton

Ponte Vedra's Audrey Matt hits against Clay during the Sharks' 6-4 victory last Thursday, April 12. Pitcher Michelle Holder earned the win, and Quinland Richmond, Maggie Richardson, Ellie Peters and Madison Lucchino provided the bulk of the offense for the Sharks.



Cody Nelson of the Sharks makes solid contact on a base hit to right during an April 13 game against Nease.

## Nease tops Ponte Vedra

Nease beat Ponte Vedra 8-4 in baseball last Friday, April 13.

Nease's Sam Gallardo finished the game with three RBIs and a home run.

Zach Chappell and Carter Page doubled for the Sharks driving in two runs each.

**RIGHT:** Nease's Eric Linder pitches against Ponte Vedra.

**FAR RIGHT:** Sharks pitcher Kevin Faulkner and third baseman Sebastian Rothman collide fielding an infield ground ball.

Photos by Jerry and Chris Norton



## Signing

Continued from 35

"I would like to thank my teammates, some of which are here," she said. "Thank you for pushing me every single day in practice to be a better athlete and a better person."

Meanwhile, swimmer Lucas Pels – who is joining Chowan University – said he was thankful for his coaches, family and friends.

"I would like to thank the academy for my award," he joked. "Really, I would like to thank my mom for the amazing support she has given me for the past four years of high school. I know how difficult it is bouncing between everything I'm doing and your job – always on the run – I really want to thank you mom. I love you."

Other students who signed letters of intent at the ceremony include Matt Eden, baseball, Gordon State College; Kyle Huber, baseball, Daytona State College; Tyler McKay, baseball, Flagler College; Katherine Jakeway, golf, University of Tulsa; Ryan Rabalais, swimming, Wingate University; Jareem Westcott, football, Stetson University; Kenny Whitehead, football, Southeastern University; Dani Anderson, soccer, Jacksonville University; Sydney Washington, soccer, Florida International University; Bailey Pattison, softball, Mercer; Shannon Cotter, lacrosse, Jacksonville University; William Delarm, lacrosse, Methodist; Joseph Pappaceno, lacrosse, Florida Southern College; and Ashton Wood, lacrosse, Mercer.



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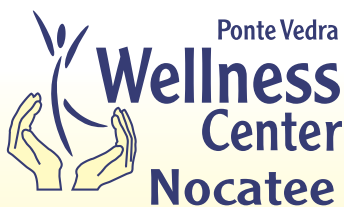


Photo courtesy of Daniel Gimenez

Karate America Ponte Vedra students Lucas Gimenez, 9, and Lilly Sonn, 11, recently competed in the 2018 ATA Taekwondo European Championship in Barcelona, Spain, from March 25-28. Gimenez, who competed in eight events as a second-degree blackbelt, took home five gold and three silver medals. Sonn competed in five events as a first-degree blackbelt, winning gold in four of them.

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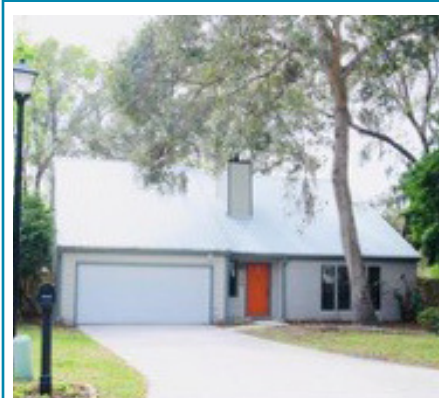
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