

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



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PonteVedraRecorder.com



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**All About Pets**  
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**TP SEEN:**  
**Scenes from**  
**THE PLAYERS**  
INSIDE

## THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP



# WEBB WINS

Webb Simpson is the winner of THE PLAYERS Championship 2018. Flip to page 60 for a recap of the tournament, and page 61 for the story of Simpson's caddy, Paul Tesori, a Nocatee resident and First Coast native who has always dreamed of winning THE PLAYERS.



Photos by Chris Norton



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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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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

### 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.

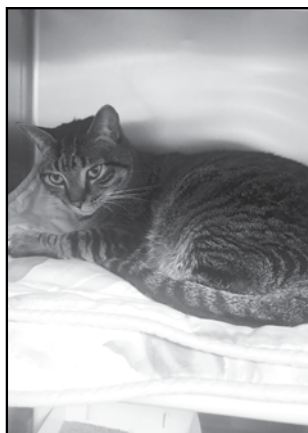
Five readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Poppy's Italiano sign. The winner of the random drawing was **Caleb Laughlin**. Congratulations, Caleb — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



### ADOPT A PET

#### CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Pepper, and I am a 2-year-old male cat who was brought to the pet center by my owners. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #33405



#### DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Bell, and I am a 4-year-old hound mix who was brought to the pet center by my owners. I prefer to be in a single pet family. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #42560



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

A	B	O	D	E	S	A	C	H	U	S	H		
R	A	D	O	N	E	G	O	T	I	T	H	E	
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8	6	2	4	1	7	5	9	3				
3	7	9	2	5	6	8	4	1				
4	1	5	8	9	3	6	7	2				

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



**Susan Griffin**  
Publisher  
[susan@opcfla.com](mailto:susan@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3938

**Jon Blauvelt**  
Editor  
[jonb@opcfla.com](mailto:jonb@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3939

**Samantha Logue**  
Reporter  
[samantha@opcfla.com](mailto:samantha@opcfla.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3945

**Paris Moulden**  
Page designer/Reporter  
[paris@opcfla.com](mailto:paris@opcfla.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3943

**Benjamin Naim**  
Reporter  
[ben@opcfla.com](mailto:ben@opcfla.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3941

**Ed Johnson**  
Senior Account Executive  
[ed@opcfla.com](mailto:ed@opcfla.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3940

**Kristin Flanagan**  
Account Executive  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3950

**Suzanne Kirby**  
Account Executive  
[Suzanne@opcfla.com](mailto:Suzanne@opcfla.com)

**April Snyder**  
Sales Assistant  
[aprils@opcfla.com](mailto:aprils@opcfla.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3937

**Bob Bueno**  
Circulation Manager  
[bbueno@opcfla.com](mailto:bbueno@opcfla.com)  
904-737-7327

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**Sophisticated European Inspired Marsh Landing Home**

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**Steps from Ponte Vedra Beaches**

Do you enjoy listening to the ocean waves while you relax with a glass of wine? This first-floor unit is steps away from Ponte Vedra beaches as well as The Lodge & Club, an exceptional resort with dining, fitness, and several pools. **\$650,000**



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**COLLECTION**



**SAWGRASS PLAYERS CLUB**  
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**CYPRESS CREEK**  
**\$489,500**

Well maintained home situated on a private lot in the desirable Cypress Creek neighborhood within the gated community of The Player's Club. This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home features new hardwood floors, ceramic tile, abundant natural light & serene water views! MLS 929734

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[MBrunette@WatsonRealtyCorp.com](mailto:MBrunette@WatsonRealtyCorp.com)



**SPINNAKERS REACH**  
**\$714,900**

Spectacular condo being sold fully furnished in Spinnakers Reach at Sawgrass CC. Full renovation completed in 2010, including new wiring, duct work, plumbing, custom cabinets & designer lighting. MLS 934453

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[MurrayBeard@WatsonRealtyCorp.com](mailto:MurrayBeard@WatsonRealtyCorp.com)  
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**ROSCOE BLVD**  
**\$824,750**

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# Oak Bridge development to go forward

County Commission unanimously approves proposal

By Samantha Logue

In a unanimous 5-0 decision, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners voted Tuesday to approve Alta Mar Holdings LLC's proposed development plans for the back 40 acres of the Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass' golf course.

The public turned out in full force for the May 15 meeting, with representatives from the Sawgrass Players Club, Vicar's Landing and the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach there to support the plan, and representatives from the Hidden Oaks subdivision and some local businesses there to oppose it. With those in favor of the development seated on the left and those opposed on the right, the tension was palpable.

"Realistically, we're all here because we all have an economically unviable, 140-acre golf course embedded in one of the most prestigious communities inside Ponte Vedra Beach," Alta Mar's David Miller said. "The course desperately needs \$2 million, that isn't rebutted, and the improvements need to come from a yes vote and the subsequent sale of the most logical and least impactful portion of the course."

Alta Mar's plan to sell off six holes of the Oak Bridge golf course — converting it from a total of 18 to 12 holes — for

*"When it comes to decisions of where you put your head down to sleep, the community that you live in, where your kids grow up, the view that you look at every single morning when you have your cup of coffee, it's just not that easy to get a room full of people to agree on what that is worth and how to save it."*

Jane West, Hidden Oaks' legal counsel

commercial and age-restricted residential development has been a subject of local controversy for the past two years. Although it received majority support from the surrounding Sawgrass Players Club community, concerns were raised by others — particularly those living in the neighboring Hidden Oaks subdivision.

"The loss of view, the construction noise, the increased traffic congestion and the decreased property values are of significant concern to my clients," said Jane West, Hidden Oaks' legal counsel. "We respectfully request that (the board) deny this application."

Responding to the opposition's con-

cerns, however, Alta Mar's legal counsel, Ellen Avery-Smith, countered that the company had already made multiple concessions to lessen the development's adverse impacts, including increasing buffering and property line setbacks, as well as removing the parking waivers it had originally requested.

"We have done everything that we could possibly think of to mitigate the impact of this development and make it compatible with the surrounding community," she said.

Indeed, West confirmed that representatives of Hidden Oaks and Alta Mar had met recently to negotiate and reached a handshake deal, but that deal ultimately fell through when it was presented to the Hidden Oaks residents.

"When it comes to decisions of where you put your head down to sleep, the community that you live in, where your kids grow up, the view that you look at every single morning when you have your cup of coffee, it's just not that easy to get a room full of people to agree on what that is worth and how to save it," West said.

After hours of presentations and public comment, Miller announced in his final statement that he would make one last concession and decrease the number of residential units he was requesting from 330 to 280 units — a move which Commissioner Jay Morris praised.

"Of all the emails I've gotten, one of

the biggest (issues) has been density, so I really appreciate you taking it down those 50 units," Morris said. "People who totally aren't happy with 330 aren't going to be happy with 280, but that is over a 15 percent reduction ... and I appreciate your willingness to do that."

Pointing to a similar situation surrounding the failed Baymeadows Golf Club in Jacksonville, Morris went on to say that, although he sympathized with those who might experience a resultant decrease in property value, he felt it was best for the overall community that the development be allowed to go forward.

"People are going to lose real estate value, in my opinion, far more if that golf course goes under," Morris said, adding, "I'm voting for this."

In apparent agreement, the other four commissioners followed suit and voted in favor of the development. For Miller, the unanimity of their decision was meaningful.

"Greater Ponte Vedra and TPC won, and 5-0 is just an ultimate validation that it's the best thing for the community," Miller said. "I really appreciate the commissioners taking into consideration everything that was presented before them ... and there are going to be some affected parties, but that's America. Our supporters outnumbered the detractors probably 7-1 and ruled the day, and that's how it should work in America."

## St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar endorses Dick Williams for County Commission District 4

St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar has announced his endorsement of Dick Williams for the St. Johns County Commission District 4 seat.

Williams' commitment to public safety and ensuring that local law enforcement receive the respect and resources they need are among the reasons why Shoar said he supports his candidacy.

"Dick understands that in order for quality of life to be sustained, we have to uphold a commitment to the people of St. Johns County and those who visit to ensure their public safety," said Shoar. "Whether it is school safety or providing the resources that our law enforcement officers and team need, Dick is the most qualified candidate and he will work to ensure we meet

the level of public safety our citizens deserve."

Williams, in turn, addressed the significance of public safety.

"Public safety is one of the most important issues that we need to address as a member of the St. Johns County Commission," he said. "Ensuring that our law enforcement has the resources they need to keep our county safe will be one of my top priorities."

A Republican candidate for the St. Johns County Commission District 4, Williams is committed to promoting policies that maintain quality of life in St. Johns County while protecting the people's hard-earned tax dollars and ensuring that the county continues to grow the economy. For more information, visit [Williams4Commission.com](http://Williams4Commission.com).



St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar (right) has endorsed Dick Williams for the St. Johns County Commission District 4 seat.

Photo courtesy of Kevin Doyle

# Christ Episcopal Church Charitable Foundation presents scholarships, grants to local students

The Christ Episcopal Church Charitable Foundation awarded five scholarships and five educational grants to local students at a ceremony at Christ Church on May 8.

Welcoming the students were Christ Church Associate Rector, the Rev. Remington Slone; Foundation President Melissa Roland; Scholarship Committee Chair Tem Fitch; and the Rev. Thomas P. Reeder, Rector of Christ Church. The scholars also heard from Angela Meuse, who shared her experience as a scholarship recipient in 1994, the first year of this program. The recipients are as follows:



**Christ Church Rector Fr. Tom Reeder, Dylan Casto, Kiah Kramer, Stella Hymeri, Allison Hamm, Angela Ayoub, Piedad Castano (representing recipient Samantha Castano) and Foundation Scholarship Chair Tem Fitch gather at the Christ Church Foundation Awards Scholarships presentation on May 8.**

Photo courtesy of Christ Episcopal Church

**2018 scholarship recipients (four-year Florida pre-paid university plan scholarships to be used at any Florida public university)**

- **Angela Ayoub** (Nease High School) will attend the University of Central Florida, pursuing a degree in biological health sciences and a career in physical therapy.
- **Samantha Castano** (Nease High School) will attend the University of Florida, entering as a junior majoring in psychology, and pursue a career as an anesthesiologist.
- **Stella Hymeri** (Ponte Vedra High

School) will attend Santa Fe College as a sophomore and transfer to Florida in her junior year to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering.

- **Kiah Kramer** (Ponte Vedra High School) will attend the Innovation Academy at the University of Florida and pursue a degree in chemistry with a minor in innovation.
- **Luciana Nunez** (Ponte Vedra High School) will attend the University of Florida, majoring in psychology and special education.

**2018 educational grants (various award amounts to be used at any college or university)**

- **Dylan Casto** (Jacksonville University) is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing and a MBA.
- **Jessica Conover** (Fletcher High School) will attend the University of Florida and pursue a career in physical therapy.
- **Allison Hamm** (University of North Florida) is a junior majoring in communications and minoring in business.

■ **Abel Haynes** (Ponte Vedra High School) will attend the University of Florida or University of Miami, pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering.

■ **Katie Young** (University of North Florida) is a junior pursuing a degree in psychology.

Since 1994, the Christ Episcopal Church Charitable Foundation has helped 107 young people with their college expenses by awarding 66 four-year and one single year tuition-only scholarships, eight partial tuition-only scholarships and 40 educational grants to Beaches area students in need of financial assistance with their college education.

The Christ Church Charitable Foundation hosts fundraisers throughout the year to fund these scholarships, grants and other outreach projects, including a Christmas house tour in December; golf and tennis tournaments in March at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club; and the Shared Treasures estate sale.

Scholarships established by Loti Woods and Susi Buckey, as well as the Parker/Woodruff Scholarship, make it possible to offer more students the chance to attend college.



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**Summer House \$179,000**

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**Selva Tierra - Atlantic Beach \$525,000**

Lovingly and meticulously maintained 3BR/2BA home on quiet, friendly cul de sac (once a month block party) just 3 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



**Odoms Mill at Ponte Vedra Beach \$565,000**

OPEN HOUSE at 929 W Grist Mill Ct, Saturday, May 19th from 1-4pm. Beautiful 4BR/4BA home on quiet cul de sac with 12' ceilings, deep moldings and stunning hardwood floors throughout. Updated kitchen w/ss appliances & granite counters. Spacious great room w/FP & built-ins opens to enclosed lanai overlooking private yard. MLS 932122



**Sawmill Lakes \$625,000**

OPEN HOUSE at 352 S Mill View Way, Saturday, May 19th from 1-4pm. Gorgeous 4BR/4BR pool home w/lakeside setting in back & preserve in front. Single level w/bonus room floor plan, wood floors & high ceilings. Kitchen w/ss appliances & granite counters opens to family room w/walls of windows to enjoy the water views. MLS 934470



**Ponte Vedra Boulevard \$1,295,000**

Beautifully designed 5BR/5.5BA pool home across street from ocean & overlooking Guana Preserve. Saturnia flooring, chef's kitchen opens to the huge family room w/FP & walls of windows to bring in the views. Luxurious owner's suite enjoys both pool & preserve views. Detached guest cottage. Membership to The Lodge included. MLS 923778

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# Military members and families honored at THE PLAYERS

Country singer Luke Combs headlines annual concert

By Samantha Logue

Thousands of fans of golf, country music and the United States military converged on TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach Tuesday, May 8 for THE PLAYERS Championship's annual Military Appreciation Day ceremony and concert on the famed 17th hole. This year featuring country music artist Luke Combs, the patriotic event has become a pillar among the many traditions that set the tournament apart.

This year's Military Appreciation event treated attendees to pageantry by military personnel, a performance of the national anthem, a flyover by the 125th Fighter Wing, a country concert and more. Featuring guest speaker Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, the program demonstrated THE PLAYERS' ongoing commitment to honoring those who serve in the United States' armed forces.

"On behalf of the military men and women and their families, I want to thank Commissioner (Jay) Monahan, the PGA Tour and all the players," Bolivar said. "We appreciate the VIP treatment that you've given all of us — from the free admission to the free hospitality tent, to the Military Job Fair, to this absolutely wonderful event today. All of that combined with what you do to support our military and their families throughout the year is just totally awesome, and we can't thank you all enough."

Bolivar, the commander of U.S. Navy Region Southeast, expressed the hope that those in attendance would seize the opportunity to ask U.S. military members about their sacrifices and their service, stating, "I'm confident that their answers will cause you to be as proud of them as I am."

Praising the unwavering resolve of America's armed forces in the face of adversity, Bolivar also recognized the many sacrifices that their family members make in their absence.

"Family separation is never easy," she said. "It's our military family members that serve this nation in many ways that you can appreciate. They take care of the home front so that the military member can focus on his or her mission. So, to all the wives, husbands, kids and parents out there, thank you so much for your unmatched support and sacrifices on behalf of your service member. The strength, spirit and courage that our military families display every day never ceases to amaze me, and we certainly could not do our jobs without you, so I salute you."

The event was capped off by Combs, who fired up the crowd with some of his most popular songs, including "Hur-



Luke Combs is joined onstage by the airmen of the 125th Fighter Wing at THE PLAYERS' Military Appreciation Day concert May 8.



A crowd of country music fans sings along with featured artist Luke Combs.



ricane" and "When It Rains It Pours." When it came time for him to perform "This One's For You," however, Combs dedicated the song to those who serve and expressed his gratitude for their sacrifice.

"This song is a thank you to everybody who's helped me get here, and I want to send it out as a thank you to all of our troops that may be here with us today, may be overseas or may be no longer with us," he said. "Thank you, guys, for what you do, and ... I just want all of our armed forces to know that we love them."



ABOVE: Combs and his band entertain the crowd.

LEFT: Military personnel stand at attention during the Military Appreciation event.

Photos by Samantha Logue



**ABOVE:** Paul, Isiah and Michelle Tesori gather at their Tesori Family Foundation All-Star Clinic on Wednesday, May 9.

**RIGHT:** One of the VIPs performs a dance after receiving his award.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

**BELOW:** Jordan Spieth prepares to demonstrate a shot at the clinic.

Photo by Maris Kirs Photography



Photo by Maris Kirs Photography

**Paul Tesori and Jordan Spieth address the crowd at the All-Star Clinic.**

# Tesori Family Foundation holds golf clinic for children with special needs

**By Jon Blauvelt**

For the third consecutive year, the Tesori Family Foundation hosted a group of local children with special needs and their families for a golf clinic at Sawgrass Country Club that included a special demonstration from PGA Tour player Jordan Spieth.

A field of “VIPs” participated in the All-Star Kids Clinic, which was held Wednesday, May 9, on the eve of the opening round of THE PLAYERS Championship. Among the volunteers at the clinic were coaches from The First Tee of North Florida and PGA Tour caddies, including Paul Tesori himself, who is the caddy for THE PLAYERS Championship 2018 winner Webb Simpson, a former PGA Tour player and a Nocatee resident. Paul and his wife Michelle started the golf clinics for kids with special needs in 2014 after their son Isiah was born with Down Syndrome.

Spieth kicked off the clinic by demonstrating different shots and a few trick shots. Spieth’s younger sister Ellie has learning disabilities herself.

“He did a great clinic,” said Paul Tesori. “He engages with the kids. He’s never in a rush to get out of here, which is extremely special to us.”

After Spieth’s demonstration, the children were divided into groups and rotated through 15- to 20-minute sessions on putting, chipping and driving, which to the enjoyment of the kids, included using the automated ball teeing system known as Power Tee.

Following the clinic, the Tesoris presented awards and prizes to each of the participants and then sent them in golf carts to Sawgrass Beach Club, where they enjoyed an all-you-can-eat pizza party. Also at the event, the PGA Tour Superstore and Cal Ripken Foundation presented the Tesori Family Foundation with donations.

Founded in 2009, the Tesori Family Foundation supports several local and national nonprofits throughout the year. In addition to supporting the special needs community, the foundation benefits the elderly and the homeless, as well as many other groups in need.

**Read page 61 for more on Paul Tesori’s win at THE PLAYERS.**

*Chris Condon is a longtime photographer with the PGA Tour who lives in Jacksonville Beach.*

## Chris Condon

### Can you please tell me about your background?

I've been a professional photographer in the sports arena for about 30 years. I got started in sports when I was in high school, where I did high school yearbook. I just fell in love with the magic of photography and learning how to develop film and make prints. I realized that's how I wanted to get into a career in photography. I fell in love with sports as I was in college. I started doing a lot of motorsports at the Daytona Speedway, and then eventually it led to options with working for the Jacksonville Jaguars and then eventually the PGA Tour.

### What have you experienced throughout your 20-year career with the PGA Tour?

I think overall when you look back on 20 years of what I've been a part of, it's pretty amazing. Coming into the Tour in 1998, it was right after Tiger Woods became a professional. So, I was able to be part of an amazing era of golf. I got to know the players before him: Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Tom Watson ... the legends of the game. And then being able to see Tiger in his career, and now watching the young guys like Rickie, Jordan and Dustin who are taking over the game now, it's pretty amazing when you think of all those experiences together.

### What are your primary roles and responsibilities as manager of photo/video content for photographic services?

I recently took on the position, and it's a little bit different. It's not going to be as much travel. It's not going to be as much with the camera in my hands. I'll still shoot some, but it's mainly going to be managing other photographers and other video content creators to gather content, illustrating the fan experience and how amazing it is out here on the Tour.

### Do you have a favorite shot you've taken in your career?

I think there are probably two that come to mind the most. One was in South Africa at the Presidents Cup in 2003. It was a pretty interesting day because we got to meet Nelson Mandela. He was the honorary chairman for the tournament that year. I have a really cool photograph of Tiger Woods, Nelson Mandela and Ernie Els shaking hands together. It's just one of those things that really resonated with me.

The second one would have been Presidents Cup in Ohio where I had a shot of Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Jason Dufner before the opening ceremony, wearing suits, just kind of relaxing in the theater before they went on stage. It was a very nice, candid moment that really is just a behind-the-scenes type of situation that most people don't get to see.

### What makes THE PLAYERS so special to you?

To ask about what makes THE PLAYERS special is really tough because it's everything about THE PLAYERS. One, it's a home game. We don't have to stay in a hotel. We get to see our family and friends on the golf course. The golf course is so spectator-friendly. Everything from the different venues for food, the different places you can go get out of the sun, the kid zones, the autograph area and then just the general views you can get on the golf course. There are not many golf courses that have the mounding and the sight lines that we have here at TPC Sawgrass. It just makes for an amazing spectator experience. It's so cool to see the fans having such a great time.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

### What do you enjoy most about living on the First Coast?

Absolutely it's the ocean. I cannot live far away from the ocean. My wife and I are avid stand up paddle boarders and spend as much time in the water as we can. If I'm too far away from the ocean, I start getting a little nervous.

*Edited by Jon Blauvelt*

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



# DREAMS COME TRUE AT THE PLAYERS



Photo by Samantha Logue

As part of "Dream Day" at THE PLAYERS Championship, Dreams Come True recipients receive the autographs of golfers and their caddies Wednesday, May 9, on the 17th tee of THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. In addition to the inside-the-ropes experience, the kids and their families were also treated to breakfast at the tournament's Greenside Lounge, as well as week-long VIP tournament passes and complimentary admission to the World Golf Hall of Fame.



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# Underwood's hosts PGA Tour wives for fifth annual luncheon

By Samantha Logue

Last week, with the eyes of the professional golf world focused on TPC Sawgrass, the golfers of the PGA Tour spent Wednesday, May 9 preparing for one of the toughest tournaments in the sport: THE PLAYERS Championship. While the players practiced their putting, however, their wives indulged in a special luncheon and jewelry preview hosted by Underwood Jewelers in Ponte Vedra Beach.

An annual private event Underwood's hosts specially for the PGA Tour Wives Association, the luncheon — now in its fifth year — featured cocktails, food from Table 1 and a private viewing of the Dao Fournier jewelry collection. In addition, the event included a Mother's Day-themed preview of the life-styling services of Centerpieces — a West Palm Beach-based company co-founded by Krista Glover, wife of golfer Lucas Glover.

"I started the business about two months ago," Glover said. "We do life-styling for women, and that incorporates wardrobe, home and some small celebrations and event planning. So, we came in and we were able to use all these amazing things that Underwood's has in their store to pull together different Mother's Day looks."

Dedicated to supporting children in need, members of the PGA Tour Wives Association actively engage in community outreach and fundraising initiatives throughout the year. Included in those initiatives is the annual Underwood's luncheon and trunk show, from which a portion of the proceeds this year will benefit Hubbard House in Jacksonville, in addition to the association's various other outreach programs.

"There's just so much of (our lives) that goes back to the husbands, what they're doing day-in and day-out, so it's kind of nice to have our own little stuff going on, and it's fun to get our girlfriends together," said Lucy Price, wife of golfer Aron Price.

Co-creator of the Dao Fournier collection with her sister Kimberly Gibson, Price noted that proceeds from past years have totaled more than \$20,000, and that the annual fundraiser serves as a means for her and the other PGA Tour wives to give back to both the community and Underwood's.

"The girls come in, they get to see the newest pieces, and kind of give thanks to Underwood's for being so generous and supportive," she said.

As for Underwood's, Store Manager John Rutkowski said it was not only his pleasure, but also his responsibility to give back to his community.

"How I always feel with THE PLAYERS coming into town is that we embrace the tournament, we embrace the players and their wives and families, and this is our way of showing them that we appreciate them coming here," he said. "And partnering with Dao Fournier, we're able to have this trunk show to raise money for local charities like the Hubbard House and the charities of the PGA Tour wives. ... We feel that it's our obligation to give back to the community that supports us, and over here at the beach, people do support the businesses that support charities that touch their lives, so it's a win-win."



**ABOVE:** Dao Fournier co-creator and jewelry designer Lucy Price (right) models her pieces with Christy Bromberg at the May 9 luncheon for the PGA Tour Wives Association at Underwood Jeweler's in Ponte Vedra Beach.

**LEFT:** A member of the PGA Tour Wives Association tries on earrings at Underwood's annual luncheon May 9.

Photos by Samantha Logue



**Centerpieces co-founders Amanda Evans (from left) and Krista Glover showcase their styling services at Underwood Jeweler's in Ponte Vedra Beach.**



**The event included a Mother's Day-themed preview of the life-styling services of Centerpieces.**

# Vilano Beach Main Street receives 2018 National Main Street Accreditation

Vilano Beach Main Street, Inc. has been designated for its fifth year as an accredited Main Street America™ program for meeting performance standards set by the National Main Street Center.

Each year, the National Main Street Center and its Coordinating Program partners announce the list of accredited Main Street America programs in recognition of their commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach®.

“We are thrilled to honor this year’s 829 nationally accredited Main Street America programs for their commitment to preservation-based economic development and the revitalization of their commercial districts,” said Patrice Frey, president and CEO of the National Main Street Center. “The power of Main Street shines across the country through these vibrant communities, who have all worked to generate impressive economic returns, preserve community character and celebrate local history.”

Vilano Beach Main Street’s per-

formance is annually evaluated by the Florida Main Street Program under the Department of State, Historic Preservation, which works in partnership with the National Main Street Center to identify the local programs that meet ten national performance standards. Evaluation criteria determines the communities that are building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts and include standards such as fostering strong public-private partnerships, documenting programmatic progress and actively preserving historic buildings.

Vivian Browning, president of Vilano Beach Main Street, believes the State Main Street Program structure provides needed credibility for investors to be confident businesses in the community will succeed.

“This month the visible efforts of the many years of hard work will take form as the two new hotels with retail shops take shape in their build out,” she said.

Vilano Beach became a Florida Main Street Community in 2003. For more information, visit [www.vilano beachfl.com](http://www.vilano beachfl.com).

# Recent University of North Florida graduate receives Fulbright Scholarship

University of North Florida Hicks Honors College graduate Amanda Wind, who earned her bachelor’s degree in education last month, was selected as a recipient of the 2018-19 Fulbright Scholarship.

Wind’s award comes in the form of an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) grant to Thailand. The Fulbright ETA program places grantees in schools or universities around the world to supplement local English language instruction. The program aims to increase mutual understanding between the United States and the global community.

“Amanda is an amazing student who is passionate about helping others, especially those less fortunate, said Richard Tryon, UNF scholarship/fellowship advisor who assisted Wind with the application process. “She’s the kind of person who is unafraid to undertake the types of challenges that would give others reason to pause.”

A Southside resident, Wind has a concentration in exceptional student education and is committed to teaching as well as serving youth with disabilities. While she was at the university, she worked with The Arc Jacksonville On Campus Transition (OTC) Program and Best Buddies, serving as a mentor to UNF students with intellectual disabilities and developmental delays.

Through friendship and compassion, Wind helped these students navigate post-



Amanda Wind

secondary life, foster independent living skills and meet social as well as academic obligations. She was awarded the Osprey Community Engagement Medallion April 19 by UNF’s Center for Community-Based Learning for her engagement with the OTC and Best Buddies programs as well as tutoring in the Duval County Public Schools.

Additionally, Wind has also served Jacksonville’s refugee youth population through volunteering with Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida’s after-school programs. Her experiences in local service inspired her to embark on three international study abroad trips while at the university. Wind learned about meaningful volunteerism abroad in Peru, Cambodia, Vietnam and Belize, as well as how to best use her skillset to help others in developing nations. Recently, she taught in Belize with a university-partnered school in Belmopan.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Fulbright U.S. Student Program is a competitive, merit-based program that offers one-year opportunities abroad to graduating college seniors, graduate students and young professionals.

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# Gold-Star mother to fallen Navy SEAL releases third children's book written in honor of son

Award-winning author Krista Keating-Joseph, the mother of fallen Navy SEAL Charles Keating IV, released the third children's book written in honor of her son — “Big-Hearted Charlie Learns How to Make Friends” — which focuses on how to handle bullying.

“With classroom bullying and bullying by classmates on social media so prevalent in our society now,

I thought the message of how to respond to bullies, and forgiveness, were some strong messages children need to hear,” said Keating-Joseph, a Ponte Vedra Beach resident. “As with all the previous books, this book also allows us to keep Charles’ memory alive, along with his ideals.”

Based on a true story when Charlie was in second grade, the new book involves young Charlie being ridiculed for his looks by another boy at school — and how he used humor to defuse the problem. The story also focuses on the theme of forgiveness, with Charlie befriending the bullying classmate, making a friend by being a friend.

Charles Keating IV died in Iraq on May 3, 2016, while fighting Islamic State militants. His death prompted Keating-Joseph to revisit publishing a book about her son’s perseverance and determination on his school’s track team that she had started a decade earlier, publishing “Big-Hearted Charlie Runs the Mile in

2017,” with that book winning a Royal Palm Literary Award in the children’s category. Working with her mother, Phyllis Holmes, as illustrator, the team released “Big-Hearted Charlie Never Gives Up” later in the year.

“We were proud to win the award, but it’s even more rewarding to know that Charles would be proud that the stories of his exploits in school are helping

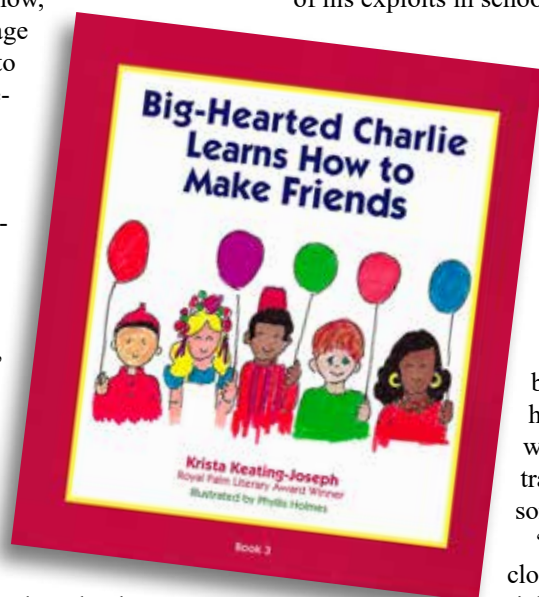
children to learn about overcoming life’s obstacles and the importance of being kind and forgiving to others along the way,” Keating-Joseph said.

She also said book writing has helped her cope with the sudden, tragic loss of her son.

“To lose someone close to you, especially a son or daughter, can be life-altering,” she said. “In that sense, these books have been therapeutic for me and our family in coping with that loss and creating something positive out of a tragedy.”

Apart from creating the children’s books about Charlie, Keating-Joseph said she relied on faith and support from loved ones to help her through the loss — and the importance of not taking life and friends and family, for granted.

“I miss him every day, but his loss taught me to appreciate every day too,” she said. “It also led me to share the positive attitude that young Charlie had with children grow-



Photos courtesy of Whittington PR

**Author Krista Keating-Joseph (right), with illustrator and mother Phyllis Holmes, wrote “Big-Hearted Charlie Learns How to Make Friends” as the third in a series of children’s books written in memory of her son, Charles Keating IV.**

ing up now, so they would know other kids have faced and overcome the same challenges they’re facing in school today.”

By sharing the story of her son’s loss, she hopes others who are facing the same types of tragedy in their lives will know they’re not alone.

“Tragic things sometimes happen in

our lives, but you do have the strength to overcome them,” she said.

For more information about “Big-Hearted Charlie Learns How to Make Friends” and other children’s books by Krista Keating-Joseph, go to [kristakeating-joseph.com](http://kristakeating-joseph.com) or visit Barnes & Noble at the bookstores or online.

## Mission House to host open house to thank community

Mission House, a nonprofit homeless day facility located in Jacksonville Beach, is hosting an open house on Saturday, May 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. to thank the community for their support.

This event is an opportunity for the community to learn more about what Mission House does, the process of its organization and how it is making a difference in the lives of the homeless at the Beaches. The open house will take place at the Mission House campus located at 800 Shetter Ave. in Jacksonville Beach.

RSVP as soon as possible by emailing [Businessmgr@missionhousejax.org](mailto:Businessmgr@missionhousejax.org) or calling (904)-241-6767, ext. 121.

## RSVP seeks volunteers for summer reading and math programs

RSVP of St. Johns County is seeking community members to assist once a week in the summer reading or algebra programs in the St. Johns County School District, and hours are flexible.

“There are students who can greatly benefit from the help of those willing to give just a small amount of their time,” said Cheryl Freeman, RSVP director. “Assistance from community volunteers can make all the difference

in helping these students succeed.”

Orientation for reading volunteers will take place Thursday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and orientation for algebra volunteers will be Friday, June 15, from 9 to 10 a.m. Both meetings will take place at the Fullerwood Auditorium at 10 Hildreth Drive in St. Augustine.

To make a training reservation or for additional information, contact RSVP at (904) 547-3945 or [cheryl.freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:cheryl.freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

# Program offers 15 locations around St. Johns County to recycle fishing line and help save local marine life

Did you know that it takes hundreds of years for fishing line — often referred to as monofilament — to biodegrade? Because it is thin and often clear, birds and animals can't see it and become entangled in it or mistakenly ingest it, resulting in injury or death.

That's one of the reasons why the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) have teamed up to take part in the Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP).

"Almost all of the bins were donated by FWC," said Kelly Ussia, park naturalist for SJC Parks and Recreation. "Between myself and volunteers from the GTM Research Reserve, we will all work together to empty the bins to cut down on monofilament trash that ends up in the water. Now it's even easier to keep our waterways tangle-free."

Monofilament recycling bins can be found at the following locations throughout St. Johns County:

- **Boating Club Road Boat Ramp:** 615 Boating Club Road, St. Augustine
- **Doug Crane Boat Ramp:** 1039 Shore Drive, St. Augustine
- **Exxon Beach Access:** 2700 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach
- **Moultrie Creek Boat Ramp:** 4805 Shore Drive, St. Augustine
- **Palmo Road Boat Ramp:** 8600 Palmo Fish Camp Road, St. Augustine



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Parks and Recreation

**St. Johns County Parks and Recreation staff members Donna Frantz (left) and Kelly Ussia stand next to a Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program bin.**

- **Palm Valley Boat Ramp:** 383 S. Roscoe Blvd., St. Augustine
- **Porpoise Point Beach Access:** Porpoise Point Drive, St. Augustine
- **Riverdale Park Boat Ramp:** 981 CR 13, Fruit Cove
- **Shands Fishing Pier:** 10000 Shands Pier Road, St. Johns
- **St. Johns County Ocean Pier:** 350 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine
- **Trout Creek Park Boat Ramp:** 6795 Collier Road, Orangedale
- **Usina Boat Ramp:** 603 Euclid Ave., St. Augustine
- **Vaill Point Park Fishing Pier:** 630 Vaill Point Road, St. Augustine
- **Vilano Beach Fishing Pier:** 260 Vilano Road, St. Augustine
- **Vilano Boat Ramp:** 101 Vilano Causeway, St. Augustine

For more information on monofilament recycling, visit [mrrp.myfwc.com](http://mrrp.myfwc.com).

# Betty Griffin Center receives \$100K matching challenge grant from the Delores Barr Weaver Fund

Delores Barr Weaver recently approved a one-to-one matching challenge grant for up to \$100,000 from the Delores Barr Weaver Fund to provide financial support for the Betty Griffin Center, a shelter providing protection, counseling and transitional support for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

The grant comes from the Delores Barr Weaver Fund and will match up to \$100,000 given by new donors, current donors who increase their gift (the amount of the increase may count) along with those who have not donated to Betty Griffin Center since March 1, 2015, through December 31, 2018.

"Hundreds of women, children and their family members who are victims of domestic and sexual violence in St. Johns County turn to Betty Griffin Center for shelter, counseling and other support to survive the trauma and move on with their lives each year," said Weaver. "This is one of many deserving organizations in our area that is improving and even saving lives in our community every day."

Betty Griffin Center CEO Joyce Mahr noted that this matching grant will play an important role in supporting the operation of the nonprofit while continuing to provide critical services. Donations received through the grant will be used to fund its shelter operations, counseling and educational programming, rape care unit at Flagler Hospital, child advocates and many other operational needs.

"Donations like this one from Mrs. Weaver are crucial in helping us cover our operating costs, which will enable us to continue to help the growing number of victims of sexual and domestic assault in our community," Mahr said. "As St. Johns County continues to grow, the demand for services at Betty Griffin Center has increased by more than 50 percent since 2017, and there's been an increase in our costs as well. The shelter and transitional housing continue to be over capacity, so this grant will help us close that gap."

To donate and take part in the Delores Barr Weaver Challenge Grant, visit [www.bettygriffincenter.org/donate](http://www.bettygriffincenter.org/donate).

# North Florida Land Trust receives Historic Preservation Award

## Nonprofit honored for saving last remaining fort in Jacksonville

North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) was recently presented with the 2018 Historic Preservation Award at a ceremony held May 3 at the Jacksonville Main Library Auditorium. Presented by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission, the award recognized NFLT's work in acquiring and preserving the 1898 Spanish American War Gun Emplacements, the last remaining fort in Duval County.

"We are grateful that we were chosen to receive this award, but we could not have saved this fort without the help of the entire community," said Jim McCarthy, president of NFLT and a Ponte Vedra resident. "We share this honor with our contributors who made this possible, including the City of Jacksonville, the



**North Florida Land Trust President and Ponte Vedra resident Jim McCarthy (center) is presented with the 2018 Historic Preservation Award by Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission Vice Chairman Ryan Davis (from left) and Commissioner Andres Lopera.**

Photo courtesy of Kelly White

Delores Barr Weaver Fund, an anonymous donor who matched up to \$39,000 in donations and to all those who helped us raise the money to save this important piece of Jacksonville's history."

NFLT partnered with the National Park Service in 2015 to serve as the acquisition and fundraising partner to save the 1898 Spanish American War Gun Emplace-

ment, the only remaining military installation in Jacksonville out of a total four that once acted in defense of the river. Fort Caroline, the first fort in Jacksonville, was constructed in 1564 by French Huguenots and was later taken by the Spanish and renamed Fort San Mateo, according to NFLT. That fort's exact location is unknown, but it is believed that changes

in the river left it submerged. An English fort was later constructed in 1778, according to NFLT, and was likewise lost when man-made changes to St. Johns Bluff caused considerable erosion along the marsh. NFLT representatives said a Confederate Earthworks was also built in 1862, but it has since been buried and now lies underneath a residential development.

NFLT led the campaign to purchase the 1898 fort from an individual who had acquired it at a tax deed sale with plans to destroy it and build a house. NFLT acquired the fort in 2016 and will be turning it over to the National Park Service, which plans to add it to the Fort Caroline National Memorial as a public access park. NFLT's campaign to save the fort assures that the only fort in Duval County will remain intact and become a critical addition to the National Park Service's interpretive and community education outreach programming.

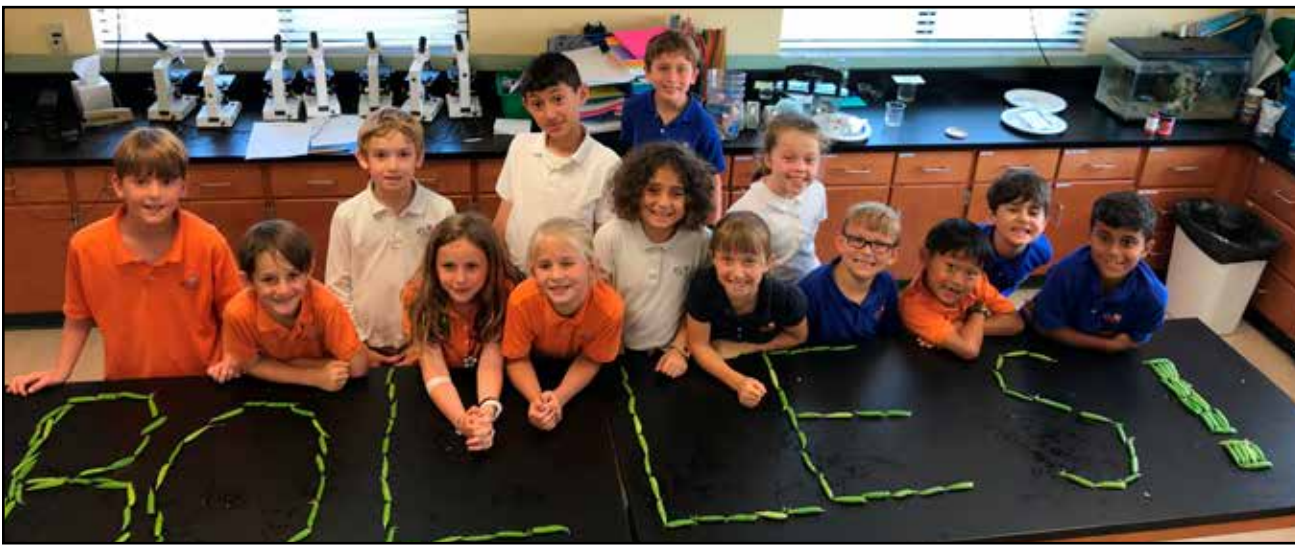


Photo by Susanna Barton

Students from the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus harvest peas as part of a science lesson last week.

## Bolles PVB students enjoy different 'greens' experience

With action at THE PLAYERS Championship just yards away from their campus, students on the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus enjoyed the “greens” differently last week.

Second-grade students harvested peas from their raised bed garden as part of their science lesson on Thursday, May 10. After assessing the peas in teacher Carolyn Houston’s science lab, students passed their harvest along to dining room staffers who used the peas in this week’s lunch preparation.

## Jacksonville Country Day School students demonstrate environmental leadership in honor of Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day, six sixth-grade students from Jacksonville Country Day School (JCDS) recently set up lemonade stands in their neighborhoods to raise

funds for environmental sustainability programs at their school.

Two of the students — Ellie Goodfriend and Gray Young — live in Ponte Vedra Beach. Ashton Aschi, Nina Lueck, Izzy Davis and Lilly Lenger were also part of the group. The students raised \$502 for JCDS.

“They not only had a good idea for raising funds, which they coordinated and followed through to fruition, but they were articulate and responsive in their presentation to support Earth Day,” said Pat Walker, head of school. “They are a great example of leadership for our younger students.”

The students are in the process of deciding the best use of the funds they collected, such as recycling bins for



Ellie Goodfriend (far left) and Gray Young (left side of the front row) are among the Jacksonville Country Day School students who set up lemonade stands to raise funds for environmental sustainability at the school.

Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Country Day School

classrooms, reusable trays/plates for the lunchroom or a water station to fill bottles. The students were asked to prioritize their ideas prior to meeting again.

“They were attentive, interested and

responsive,” added Walker. “We were all impressed with their excitement, maturity, and determination. Their efforts will make JCDS an even more environmentally friendly place.”

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Senior Portfolio Advisor  
904.273.3830

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1.44ct	Emerald Cut	AGS	-	G	VVS <sub>2</sub>	\$ 11,900	\$ 7,900
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2.01ct	Oval	Forevermark & AGS	Excellent 1	H	SI <sub>1</sub>	\$ 22,500	\$ 17,900
2.02ct	Radiant	AGS	-	I	SI <sub>1</sub>	\$ 16,500	\$ 12,500
3.01ct	Round	AGS	Ideal 0	I	SI <sub>1</sub>	\$ 42,000	\$ 33,000
3.05ct	Emerald Cut	GIA & AGS	-	I	VS <sub>1</sub>	\$ 45,000	\$ 38,000
4.01ct	Oval	Forevermark & AGS	Ideal 0	K	VS <sub>2</sub>	\$ 44,000	\$ 37,000
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# WHY I SERVE

## RONALD "DOC" RENUART

*In the latest edition of the Why I Serve series, the Ponte Vedra Recorder sat down with Dr. Ronald "Doc" Renuart to discuss his time in the military, his most memorable experiences and more on the latest edition of "Why I Serve."*



**Which branch of the military did you serve in?**

As a senior medical student at Nova Southeastern University, I joined the Florida Army National Guard. I was thinking about going active duty, but I was convinced by four of my classmates to join the National Guard and do a civilian residency. The plan was to eventually go active duty later in life, but I never actually did. I was assigned to a unit in Tampa, and did a humanitarian mission in Ecuador where we took care of some of the natives in that country. I later was deployed for operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. My unit that I was assigned to was a 161st area-support medical battalion in St. Augustine that was made up of a

lot of folks from around Jacksonville and St. Augustine. We were supposed to invade Iraq from Turkey, but Turkey said no troops, so we had to wait a little bit at Fort Stewart up in Georgia and eventually we came in through Kuwait. There, I spent time at the border of Kuwait and Iraq taking care of troops as a field surgeon...

*Visit [www.pontevedrarecorder.com](http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com) for a full version of the interview with Dr. Renuart.*

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Photos courtesy of Girl Scouts of Gateway Council

**Gold Award Girl Scout Miranda Van Zyl's project focused on preserving the global rhino population. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident visited several zoos and preserves to learn more about the animals and how to advance conservation.**



**Katherine Dykstra focused her Gold Award project on connecting nonprofit organizations and stakeholders. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident created Carachute, an Android app, and partnered with Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry to pilot the app and better link organizations with donors and volunteers.**

## Girls Scouts of Gateway Council honor 15 area recipients of prestigious Gold Award

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council has recognized 15 young women with the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award.

This year's Gold Award recipients include young women from across Northeast and North Central Florida. They are:

- Daria Burdette, Atlantic Beach
- Brianna Dillard, Jacksonville
- Katherine Dykstra, Ponte Vedra Beach
- Jennifer Gordon, Bunnell
- Amanda Higley, St. Johns
- Hannah James, Orange Park
- Celina Johnson, Jacksonville
- Kaitlyn Karnes, Neptune Beach
- Emily Matthews, Atlantic Beach
- Danielle Oko, St. Johns
- Emilie Pearson, Gainesville
- Shreya Ravi, Jacksonville
- Elena Sarabia, Gainesville
- Miranda Van Zyl, Ponte Vedra
- Jenni Wilson, Orange Park

"The Girl Scout Gold Award is the most prestigious award in the world for girls — and the most difficult to earn — and it's only available to Girl Scouts," said Mary Anne Jacobs, CEO of Girl Scouts of Gateway Council.

"The award acknowledges the power behind each Gold Award Girl Scout's dedication to not only empowering and bettering herself, but also to making the world a better place for others."

Since 1916, Girl Scouts have been planning and executing creative, impactful and sustainable "Take Action" projects in response to community needs. The Gold Award has inspired girls to find the greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities and the world.

Girl Scout Gold Award projects tackle a broad spectrum of important issues that occur locally and around the globe. Gold Award recipients represent the most successful and engaged Girl Scouts, actively achieving a sense of self and community service while sharing their ideas and passions with their communities.

"These young women are courageous leaders and visionary change makers," Jacobs said of Gateway Council's awardees. "They are our future, and it looks bright!"

To learn more about the benefits of going gold or to join Girl Scouts, visit [girlscouts-gateway.org](http://girlscouts-gateway.org). For inquiries about the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council Gold Award recipients and their projects, contact TriciaRae Stancato at [tstancato@girlscouts-gateway.org](mailto:tstancato@girlscouts-gateway.org) or (904) 421-3484.

## INK! enables residents to make difference through Take Stock in Children program

Lori Brandel of Vystar Credit Union (St. Augustine North Branch) has recently committed to mentoring a student through INK!'s Take Stock in Children Program, and she is one of several others who will support over 70 St. Johns County School District students in the 2018-19 school year.

Take Stock in Children is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1995 to offer qualified students a unique opportunity to escape the cycle of poverty through education. This program offers students a college scholarship, ongoing mentoring and hope of a better life. Since 1998, INK! has been the exclusive umbrella agency in St. Johns County.

Students are selected for this opportunity when they are in the seventh and eighth grades, agreeing to maintain academic excellence, good attendance and behavior and remain drug and crime free. Once students enroll in Take Stock, they are assigned a volunteer mentor that assists the student in a variety of life skills, with the ultimate goal of attaining college admission. Students are required to meet with their mentors once a week.

"Mentoring is the central core of our program," said Donna Lueders, executive director of INK! "If you've been looking for a way to give back in a meaningful way, you can help these scholars achieve their potential. We always need mentors to provide our scholars with the support, encouragement and guidance they need to succeed in school and life! As a mentor, you'll spend just one half hour a week with your student. From that 30 minutes, you'll make a difference that lasts a lifetime!"

Upon graduating high school, students receive a two-year tuition scholarship to attend a public Florida post-secondary college or trade school of their choice. To date over 24,000 children throughout the 67 counties in Florida have received this opportunity. Every dollar raised locally to support Take Stock goes directly to student scholarships and is matched 1:1 by the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Foundation.

Mentor Applications are available on the INK! website at [www.ink-stjohns.org/programs-tsic](http://www.ink-stjohns.org/programs-tsic). If interested in being a mentor or donating to support Take Stock in Children in St. Johns County, contact Jim Wheeler, program coordinator, at (904) 547-7121.

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# ABC Fine Wine & Spirits hosts tasting, cigar event during THE PLAYERS

Guests sampled a variety of wine, spirits and cigars on Wednesday, May 9, when ABC Fine Wine & Spirits in Ponte Vedra Beach hosted its annual event in conjunction with THE PLAYERS Championship.

Held in Sawgrass Village, the event featured several tasting stations, and the opportunity to save 15 percent on purchases in the store.



Photos by Susan Griffin

**ABOVE: Eric Kellgo and Raquel Crummitt**

**LEFT: Megan Woods, Jennifer Burnett, John Aguilera and Trudy Toche**



**Manuel Rey and Pablo Alfaro**



**Michael Kelley, Alex Quijano and April Hart**



**Mary Bosco and Beverly Cox**




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Photos by Benjamin Naim

Attendees of the "These Kids Can Paint" event held May 8 at THE PLAYERS Championship pose for a photo with a \$30,000 check for Community PedsCare courtesy of EverBank.

# Community PedsCare children enjoy day at THE PLAYERS Championship

By Benjamin Naim

The PGA Tour Wives Association and the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation hosted children and families from Community PedsCare and Wolfson Children's Hospital at THE PLAYERS Championship on Tuesday, May 8, for a fun-filled event featuring various artistic activities and vendors.

Tabitha Furyk, the chairperson of the annual event, along with PGA Tour players and their spouses, interacted with children, posed for photos and enjoyed the morning's festivities held at the Stadium Village. The Jacksonville Zoo, the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, EverBank and others were on site.

Held during the practice round prior to the tournament, the event was intended to serve as a distraction for the kids, many of whom are dealing with life-limiting or life-threatening injuries and diseases. The morning concluded with THE PLAYERS Championship and event sponsor EverBank each presenting donations of \$30,000 to Community PedsCare.

"It's a wonderful event," Furyk said in an interview with the Recorder. "We look forward to it every year."

This year's theme, "These Kids Can Paint," allowed children to be creative and explore their artistic skill.

"We had them each show their creative side," she said. "We had painting, some sand activities, some string activities ... there's always something that will hit their ability level and their interest level. There's a lot of work that goes into it, but it really pays off to see how much fun they're having."

Run by Community Hospice & Palliative Care, Community PedsCare provides pediatric, palliative hospice services to children in the Northeast Florida area.

Working in collaboration with Wolfson Children's Hospital, Nemours Children's Specialty Care and the University of Florida-Jacksonville, Community PedsCare provides kids and their families with support as the children progress through dif-

ferent levels of care settings, with services including counseling and spiritual support, music and pet therapy, parent support groups, respite care and more. For more information, visit [www.communityhospice.com/services/community-peds-care](http://www.communityhospice.com/services/community-peds-care).

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# Fellowship of Christian Athletes hosts annual breakfast at THE PLAYERS

By Benjamin Naim

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) hosted its annual Golf Breakfast with the Pros event at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa on Wednesday, May 9, enabling junior athletes to interact with professionals while learning about how God can impact their personal and professional lives.

This year's event, hosted by PGA Tour Champions golfer Fred Funk, included former PGA Tour and Web.com Tour player Jeff Klauk and Bubba Watson's caddie, Ted Scott, among others. The PGA TOUR's Russell Henley was the keynote professional, and Todd Lewis of the Golf Channel served as emcee.

"This has become a very big event and a very special event," said Funk. "To have the high school kids here, it's just a great time of camaraderie, a great time of teamwork and a great time of being with your classmates and your fellow players on your team."

Henley discussed his professional golf career, why he chose the sport and his Christian testimony.

"I was better than all my friends at all the other sports, but I was the worst

golfer," said Henley. "I think just the idea of not being the best and wanting to improve on it just excited me and I fell in love with the game."

Despite his success at golf and his eventual rise to the PGA TOUR, Henley revealed that he felt an "emptiness" inside that wouldn't go away. After learning about the life of Jesus Christ, Henley said he realized what was missing.

"I realized that what I've been searching for in golf would only be fulfilled through a relationship with Christ," he revealed. "My life completely changed since I started walking with Christ; I think the biggest thing that the Lord has shown me is what I thought would complete me really didn't and it pointed me to Christ."

Following the breakfast, the junior athletes went to the THE PLAYERS Championship Stadium Course to take in the festivities.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is an international nonprofit Christian sports ministry that unites faith and athletics. The Northeast Florida chapter offers various ministries for athletes and coaches including camp experiences, community sports events and more. For more information on the nonprofit, visit [www.nefloridafca.org](http://www.nefloridafca.org).



Photos by Benjamin Naim

PGA TOUR golfer Russell Henley (left) discusses his career, his Christian testimony and more at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' annual Golf Breakfast with the Pros event at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa on Wednesday, May 9.



Doug Ramsey, Dolan Ramsey, Danny Nery, Ryan Poblacion and Zachary Biliter



ABOVE: THE PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Jared Rice delivers remarks at the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost opening event on Tuesday, May 7.

RIGHT: K9s for Warriors members are offered a free gift at the Birdies for the Brave event.



Photos by Benjamin Naim

## Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost provides complimentary food, beverages for military personnel during THE PLAYERS

By Benjamin Naim

The Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost — a hospitality tent exclusively for military members and retirees, veterans and their dependents — opened at THE PLAYERS Championship on Tuesday, May 7 for the duration of the tournament.

Located adjacent to the No. 16 tee, the Patriots' Outpost offered complimentary food and beverages, as well as a spot to cool off. The facility was financially supported by United Rentals, THE PLAYERS volunteer leadership, the Red Coats, and Jacksonville-area companies and individuals.

The opening event featured food, beverages, a \$50,000 PGA TOUR donation presented by THE PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Jared Rice to the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, a retirement ceremony for

high-ranking military member Kenneth Ford, a presentation to K9s for Warriors members and more.

In addition to food and beverages, the Birdies for the Brave hospitality tent provided all military guests, including veterans, with a venue to watch PGA TOUR action and meet other military community members throughout tournament week.

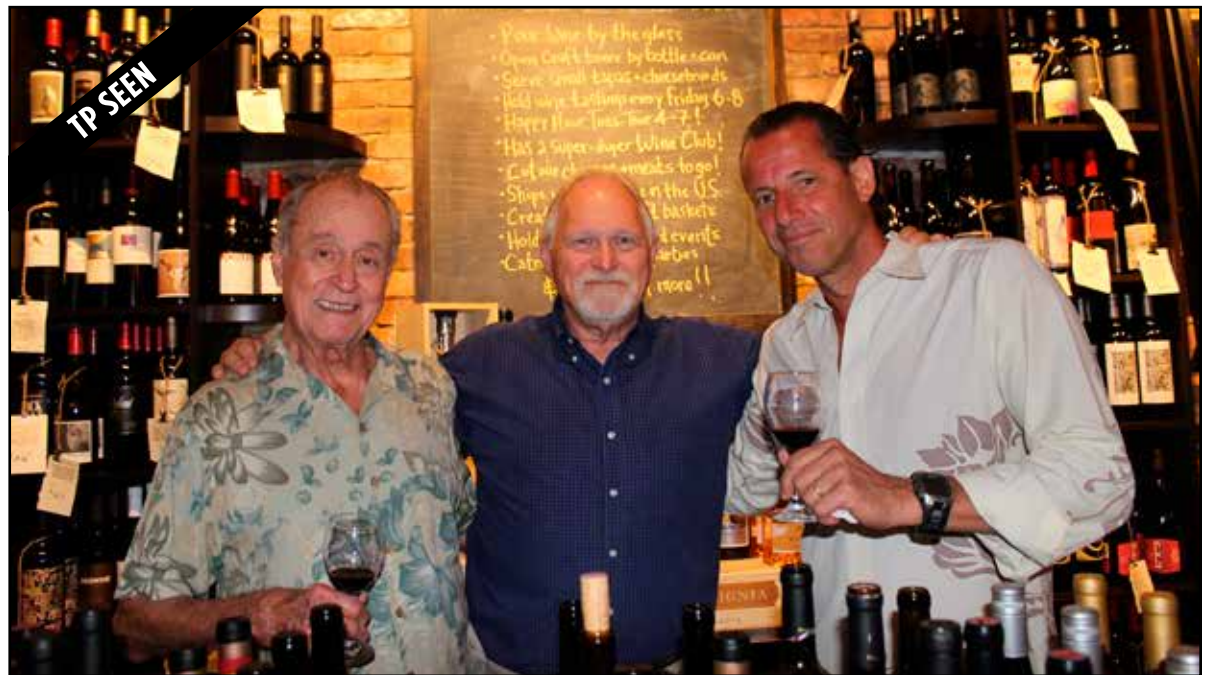
According to THE PLAYERS, more than 19,000 military members and their families enjoyed the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost last year. The 2018 Outpost was the largest ever at a PGA TOUR tournament at over 10,000 square feet.

Birdies for the Brave is a national military outreach initiative aimed at honoring the men and women of the United States Armed Forces and their families. Visit [www.birdiesforthebrave.org](http://www.birdiesforthebrave.org) for more information..

# Coastal Wine Market hosts tasting with Alfaro during THE PLAYERS

Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room in Nocatee hosted Pablo Alfaro of Pacific Southern Wine Co. for a tasting on Friday, May 11, during THE PLAYERS Championship.

Guests enjoyed a selection of his portfolio, including Frog's Leap Cabernet & Rose, Jax Vineyards Red Blend, Kith & Kin Cabernet Sauvignon and more.



**ABOVE:** Manuel Rey, Allen Horne and Pablo Alfaro

**FAR LEFT:** Steve Laurie and Dennis Mahoney

**LEFT:** Tony Troche and Pam Towart

Photos by Susan Griffin



**Hidden Hills Country Club** - Stunning home boasts a complement of finishes and architectural details including soaring ceilings, granite counters, honed marble backsplash, new Stainless appliances, Plantation Shutters, travertine and wood floors, Great Room has a LaBarge Italian hand carved mantle with a black galaxy granite fireplace flanked by built in bookshelves, newer windows, new carpet on stairs and second story, new hot water heater and more. The Owners Suite has a sitting area that opens to atrium, plus a Guest room on the first floor. The 2nd floor has a large open loft with surround sound & spacious closet, 2BR's and a Guest suite. Screened atrium has 20 ft. ceiling plus a backyard cobblestone courtyard with fire pit that overlooks 8th Tee plus a side entry 3 car garage. **MLS# 934404 \$600,000**



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June 14 | **Working with Succulents: Adult Workshop**

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# Community kicks off tournament week at THE PLAYERS Championship Celebration

THE PLAYERS Championship showed its appreciation to the local community for its support for the annual golf tournament with a celebration held Monday, May 7 at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert outside on the clubhouse lawn along with live entertainment.



Attendees of the event celebrate the beginning of THE PLAYERS.



Joy and Morgan Budner



Shelly Coluccio and Suzanne Taddei



ABOVE: David Godwin, Toni Boudreaux and Shelley and Jerry Morgan



A band at the celebration entertains the crowd during the event.

RIGHT: The celebration offered attendees a number of delicious food options.



Photos by Susan Griffin



ABOVE: Kim and Mark Proctor

LEFT: Jennifer Belisario and Jennifer Sprague

## NEXT SUDDENLY SINGLE TO BE HELD MAY 21

Tammie Mohn, a certified clinical hypnotherapist, yoga instructor and author of "52 Weeks: A Weekly Guide Inspiring Life Transformation," will serve as the speaker of the next Suddenly Single session on May 21. To be held 6 to 7 p.m. at the Recorder office, the event will feature discussion from Mohn on ways to reduce stress and anxiety using holistic clinical approaches. RSVP to Trudy Toche at (973) 819-6581. After this session, the next Suddenly Single will be Aug. 20.

Photo courtesy of Trudy Toche



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# Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa hosts VIP reception during THE PLAYERS

The Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa hosted a VIP reception on Saturday, May 12, following the third round of THE PLAYERS Championship.

From a charcuterie to towers of desserts to seafood, the Champions Ballroom of the hotel's convention center was filled with food of all kinds and presentations to please every palate. While strolling from food station to food station on "A Tour of Sawgrass," guests enjoyed listening to a live band, dancing, the company of others in attendance and more.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

The reception offered attendees several food options, including desserts, prepared meats and seafood.

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Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa General Manager Todd Hickey with his wife Anne



Alma de Luna, Cassandra Chavez and Jose Andrade

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ABOVE: Deatra Clark, Holly Kroll Smith and Michele Devries

LEFT: Jeremy and Elizabeth Feger





Jim and Tabitha Furyk (center) gather with friends at the fifth annual “Fancy Pants” party at Topgolf, which raised over \$19,000 for First Coast Blessings in a Backpack.

# ‘Fancy Pants’ party raises over \$19,000 for Blessings in a Backpack

By Jon Blauvelt

The weekend before THE PLAYERS Championship kicked off at TPC Sawgrass, golf enthusiasts wearing their most eclectic outfits flocked to Topgolf for the fifth annual “Fancy Pants” party and helped to raise over \$19,000 for First Coast Blessings in a Backpack.

According to Kimberly Ward, the executive director of First Coast Blessings in a Backpack, the funds from the May 5 event will provide 43,320 meals to hungry children on the First Coast.

“One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will go to purchasing the

food that these children will take home,” explained Ward, whose nonprofit organization provides school children who are on the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program with food to take home on weekends during the school year.

In addition to golf, the fundraiser featured a silent auction, including several pieces of sports memorabilia from Palm Coast Autographs, a raffle, music from DJ and News4Jax journalist Vic Micolucci and an array of food and drink options.

Tabitha Furyk, who serves as the nonprofit’s board chair, attended with her husband and PGA Tour golfer Jim Furyk, as well as friends. She said Blessings in a



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

First Coast Blessings in a Backpack Executive Director Kimberly Ward and Board Vice-Chair Patrick Spacek

Backpack is an organization that is near and dear to their heart.

“We have been involved before Blessings in a Backpack even came to Jacksonville with the PGA Tour and PGA Tour Wives Association,” said Tabitha, whose foundation supports the nonprofit

throughout the year via several events and fundraisers. “It’s really quite impactful knowing we’re making such a difference right here at home.”

Visit [www.firstcoastblessingsinabackpack.com/home.html](http://www.firstcoastblessingsinabackpack.com/home.html) for more information on First Coast Blessings in a Backpack,



## MAYPORT ELEMENTARY THIRD-GRADE STUDENTS VISIT THE PLAYERS

Morgan Stanley and Book Trust hosted a field trip for third-grade students from Mayport Elementary at THE PLAYERS Championship last Tuesday, May 8. During the visit, the students had a chance to participate in a book selection through Book Trust, interact with the state-of-the-art golf simulator and take a photo in the custom photo booth. Following the event, Morgan Stanley local employee volunteers joined a “Feed the Read” celebration at Mayport Elementary to deliver the books selected by the children.

Photo courtesy of PGA Tour



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# SENIOR *Living* GUIDE



Ponte Vedra 

# Recorder

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SPECIAL SECTION • May 17, 2018

# Vicar's Landing donates Toyota SUV to Council on Aging

By Benjamin Naim

Vicar's Landing donated a 2013 Toyota Venza SUV on Thursday, April 26 to the St. Johns County Council on Aging (COA) to enhance the organization's Meals on Wheels program, and to transport health professionals throughout St. Johns County who care for elders in their homes.

"We have a need for vehicles to help us deliver meals," COA Executive Director Becky Yanni said. "We do the home delivery of meals to homebound elders and we also have five dining sites around the county. We have one main commercial kitchen where we do the cooking and we have a need for vehicles to help us get those meals out to the elders who need it in the community."

Yanni noted that the Council on Aging and Vicar's Landing have a "great working relationship" and Bruce Jones, the CEO of the retirement community, is on the COA Board. According to Yanni, the COA had been using older cars (some up to 15 to 20 years old) to facilitate its program. As a result, the group needed a new vehicle, and Vicar's Landing answered the call.

Yanni also revealed that without partnerships with other organizations, COA wouldn't be capable of achieving its mission to feed and care for the elderly. The executive director added that COA serves about 260 Meals-on-Wheels per day in



Photos by Benjamin Naim

Janice Richardson, Scott Hetzinger, Donna Pugh, Tom Torretta, Becky Yanni, Bruce Jones, Abby Bacolor, Martyn Carre and Lynn Fuller gather around the 2013 Toyota Venza SUV that was donated by Vicar's Landing to the St. Johns County Council on Aging.

the county, along with about 600 meals in dining rooms in Ponte Vedra, Trout Creek, Hastings and other local areas.

"If we didn't have partnerships like with Vicar's Landing, we wouldn't be able

to do the work that we do to the extent that we do it," she said. "They increase our capacity. If we had to buy our own vehicles and pay staff and pay gas and all those things, we could maybe serve 80 to

100 meals a day as opposed to what we're doing."

For more information on COA and Vicar's Landing, visit [www.coasjc.org](http://www.coasjc.org) and [www.vicarslanding.com](http://www.vicarslanding.com).



COA representatives check out the car donated to the Council on Aging by Vicar's Landing.



COA Executive Director Becky Yanni sits in the back seat of the donated SUV.



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## Council on Aging to hold annual centenarian luncheon

The St. Johns County Council on Aging will honor community centenarians and nonagenarians at the annual Centenarian Luncheon, scheduled for May 23 at 11:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center — located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Table sponsorships are available for \$250 and include a variety of special recognitions and a seat at the luncheon.

For more information, to sponsor a table or to RSVP, contact Danielle Johnson at [djohnson@stjohnscoa.com](mailto:djohnson@stjohnscoa.com) or call (904) 280-3753.



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Thursday, May 17	Friday, May 18	Saturday, May 19	Sunday, May 20
<p><b>Florida Heritage Book Festival Memoir Workshops</b> A Memoir Workshop, sponsored by the Florida Heritage Book Festival, will be presented May 17 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, located at 101 Library Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop costs \$85 and includes lunch. In addition, a Writers Workshop on how to turn an idea into a novel will take place at the same time. Visitors can register for either workshop online at <a href="http://www.fhbookfest.com">www.fhbookfest.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Grief support group</b> A grief support group will meet on the third Thursday of each month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Room 102 of the Family Life Center, located at 578 1st Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be May 17 at 7 p.m. For more information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p><b>Farm Swap &amp; Music Jam</b> Enjoy music from local musicians while shopping for farm-fresh produce at the Florida Agricultural Museum May 17 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will feature musicians, singers and songwriters of folk, bluegrass, old time, fiddle, country and blues, along with vendors offering fruits, veggies, honeys, jellies, nuts, arts and more. The Farm Swap &amp; Music Jam will take place at 7900 Old Kings Road N. in Palm Coast. Visit <a href="http://www.floridaagmuseum.org">www.floridaagmuseum.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Coquina Studio Gallery opening</b> Local artist Eugene Quinn will open his new studio, Coquina Studio Gallery, May 17 from 5 to 9 p.m. with a surf, beach theme exhibition of his newest paintings. The opening will feature local surfing celebrity icons Dick Rosborough, Mitch Kaufmann, Piper Austin, Tim Deegan, Justin Quintal, Jason Motes and others. Patrons will have the opportunity to mingle with the artist and surfers. Coquina Studio Gallery is located at 416 3rd St. S. suite 201 in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.coquinajax.com">www.coquinajax.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Exhibition of Works by Candace Knapp &amp; Ron Vellucci</b> Enjoy this exhibition featuring the art of Candace Knapp and Ron Vellucci, in the Main Gallery of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Knapp presents new paintings inspired by observations of light and shapes in nature, by reflections of water. Vellucci's wall sculptures nicely balance Knapp's paintings with shiny metal and wood.</p> <p><b>'Deadpool 2' at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame</b> After surviving a near fatal bovine attack, a disfigured cafeteria chef Wade Wilson struggles to fulfill his dream of becoming Mayberry's best bartender while also learning to cope with his lost sense of taste. This film is showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame. For more information on showtimes 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>Greek Week event</b> Greek Week honors the 250th anniversary of Greek immigration history and the arrival of the first colony of Greeks to North America. The May 18 event will feature a presentation by Dr. Ann Browning Masters, entitled "Sharing Memories of Our Heritage," at St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine at 41 St George St. in St. Augustine. For more information on other Greek Week events, visit <a href="http://www.stphotios.org">www.stphotios.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Chad Prather at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall</b> Making his debut at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, comedian, armchair philosopher, entertainer and observational humorist Chad Prather will bring his Star Spangled Banter Comedy Tour to the stage. Prather will deliver his comedic outlook on life, family and current events live May 18 at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) Visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a> for more information or call (904) 209-0399. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N.</p>	<p><b>Armed Forces Concert Celebration</b> The First Coast Wind Symphony will host the Armed Forces Concert Celebration May 19 at 6 p.m. at Sea Walk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. The event will feature special guests Navy Band Southeast and Fletcher High School Band. Visitors are encouraged to bring a blanket or a chair to enjoy the evening of patriotic music honoring America's armed forces.</p> <p><b>Riding Into History</b> Following a May 18 Grand Marshal's Historic Lunch Tour, Riding Into History will feature a Motorcycle Concours d'Elegance featuring grand marshals Scott Parker and Bill Werner May 19 at 10 a.m. at World Golf Village. All proceeds will benefit K9s for Warriors. Visit <a href="http://www.ridingintohistory.org">www.ridingintohistory.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>SummerPalooza at TrailMark</b> TrailMark's SummerPalooza will feature food trucks, live music from TJ Brown Band and games for all ages May 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 805 TrailMark Drive in St. Augustine. The event will also feature a plant sale and farmer's market. Register on Eventbrite by searching for the event with the keywords "SummerPalooza at TrailMark."</p> <p><b>Storybook Express</b> Children of all ages are welcome to enjoy the Storybook Express, which is departing from Theatre by the Trax at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. May 19 and 26. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$14 for children 12 and under. Children two and under can ride free on laps. Visit <a href="http://www.stmarysrailroad.com">www.stmarysrailroad.com</a> or call (912) 200-5235 to purchase tickets. Theatre by the Trax is located at 1000 Osborne St. in St. Marys.</p> <p><b>Mission House Inc. open house</b> Mission House Inc., a local nonprofit, is hosting an open house to thank the community for its support in assisting homeless adults in the beaches community. The event will be held at the Mission House campus, located at 800 Shetter Ave. in Jacksonville Beach, May 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. RSVP as soon as possible by email at <a href="mailto:Businessmgr@missionhousejax.org">Businessmgr@missionhousejax.org</a> or by phone at (904) 241-6767, ext. 121.</p>	<p><b>Romero Britto and Peter Max at Gallery 725</b> Renowned artists Romero Britto and Peter Max will make an appearance at Gallery 725 May 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. and May 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. All artwork will be on exhibition and available for acquisition. RSVPs are strongly suggested at <a href="mailto:gallery725@gmail.com">gallery725@gmail.com</a> or by calling (904) 345-9320. Gallery 725 is located at 725-5 Atlantic Blvd. in Atlantic Beach.</p> <p><b>Church of Eleven22 baptisms</b> Eleven22, a local church with four campuses, will gather together with friends and family to celebrate over 300 people getting baptized in the Atlantic Ocean. The event will take place May 20 at 2:30 p.m. at Hanna Park, located at 500 Wonderwood Drive in Jacksonville. For more information, email <a href="mailto:Melinda.byernes@coe22.com">Melinda.byernes@coe22.com</a> or call (904) 536-3173.</p> <p><b>Hike at Fort Mose Historic State Park</b> Fort Mose Historic State Park will host an educational Guided Bird Walk program May 20 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Join birding expert Susan Killeen on a hike and birding exploration of salt marsh and the Secondary Fort Site island (established in 1752). Guests are encouraged to bring rubber boots, binoculars, cameras and water. Fort Mose Historic State Park is located at 15 Fort Mose Trail in St. Augustine. Visit <a href="http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Fort-Mose">www.floridastateparks.org/park/Fort-Mose</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Salt Air Farmers Market</b> This salt air farmers market will feature homegrown produce, creative local art and more May 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9505 Oceanshore Blvd. in St. Augustine. Vendors include Carmen Empanadas, Cat's Creations, Dave's Hot Dogs, Dips and Such, Electric Metal, Fish Chic Seafood, Lava Dome Pizza, Mindz Eye Artwork, Miss Robin's and more. Visit <a href="http://www.saltairfarmersmarket.com">www.saltairfarmersmarket.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:julieolsson22@gmail.com">julieolsson22@gmail.com</a> for more information.</p>

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Monday, May 21	Tuesday, May 22	Wednesday, May 23	Thursday, May 24
<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>First Coast Pastel Society exhibition</b> This exhibition at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach features a juried member show of works from the First Coast Pastel Society. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org">www.ccpvb.org</a> or call (904) 280-0614.</p> <p><b>MOSH Mondays</b> The Museum of Science and History's MOSH Mondays feature discounts including buy-one-get-one-half-off admission for adults, 10 percent off MOSH-branded items in the museum shop, 10 percent off memberships when signing up in-person and 10 percent off birthday packages when signing up in-person. MOSH Mondays also feature rotating weekly programs. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville. Visit <a href="http://www.themosh.org">www.themosh.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Suddenly Single program</b> Suddenly Single will host a program on May 21 entitled "Non-Medical Approaches for Stress/Anxiety Reduction" from 6 to 7 p.m. Tammie Mohn, a certified clinical hypnotherapist, yoga instructor and author of "52 Weeks: A Positive Guide to Life Transformation" will discuss ways to reduce stress and anxiety using holistic, highly-effective clinical remedies. This event will take place at the Ponte Vedra Recorder office, located at 1102 A1A N. #108 in Ponte Vedra Beach. Call (904) 285-8831 for more information.</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. The 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.cummuseum.org">www.cummuseum.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>Yoga on the beach</b> Each Tuesday morning through September, join yoga fitness instructor Emily Busichio as she leads a free yoga session on St. Augustine Beach at 8 a.m., weather permitting. The yoga sessions take place on the beach at the Ocean Hammock Walkover.</p> <p><b>Documentary showing at Ponte Vedra Library</b> Middlelayers will host a viewing of its documentary film to engage the public in conversation about children's rights, civic responsibility and community-based solutions to address disparities in health, education and mobility. The documentary, entitled "Replicating a J.D. Vance Anomaly," will be shown at the Ponte Vedra Library May 22 at 6 p.m. as part of the Friends of the Library Lecture Series. The Ponte Vedra Library is located at 101 Library Blvd.</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>Making Do Exhibit at Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center</b> Learn about the South's rich African-American culture at the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Center, which features a collection of Gullah Geechee artifacts, culture and stories. The exhibit also features Willis Hakeem Jones' collection of treasures discovered in Africa and from coastal Georgia. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</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>Wednesday Market at St. Augustine Beach</b> The St. Augustine Beach Wednesday Market offers oceanfront shopping at the St. Johns County Pier Park every Wednesday starting at 8 a.m. Approximately 60-80 vendors can be found at the market selling locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared foods, arts, crafts and more. Visit <a href="http://www.sabca.org">www.sabca.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Crafty women</b> Join the Bartram Trail Branch Library for this Crafty Women event May 23 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will be able to create their own mini herb garden using recycled materials. Call (904) 827-6960 to register. The library is located at 60 Davis Pond Blvd. in Fruit Cove.</p>	<p><b>St. Johns County Budget workshops</b> In conjunction with the annual budget process, members of the public are invited to attend the St. Johns County Fiscal Year 2019 Administrator's Budget Workshops scheduled from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on May 23 and 24 at the St. Johns County Health and Human Services Building, located at 200 San Sebastian View in St. Augustine. Hosted by St. Johns County Administration and the Office of Management and Budget, the workshops will provide a departmental line item review of the proposed fiscal year 2019 St. Johns County budget in its formative stage prior to its presentation to the Board of County Commissioners.</p> <p><b>Yoga for Survivors</b> The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class May 24 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit <a href="http://www.baptistjax.com/ymca">www.baptistjax.com/ymca</a> to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p><b>Solo: A Star Wars Anthology at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame</b> See Han Solo and Chewbacca's adventures before joining the Rebellion, including their early encounters with Lando Calrissian, in this film showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame. For more information on showtimes 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>

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Representatives from Principal Senior Living Group and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce participate in the groundbreaking of Benton House of St. Johns on Wednesday, May 9.

## Groundbreaking ceremony takes place at Benton House of St. Johns

Representatives from Principal Senior Living Group and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the groundbreaking of Benton House of St. Johns — a new senior living community in St. Augustine — on Wednesday, May 9.

To be located at 115 Benton Lane, the new facility, which plans to open in the second quarter of 2019, will offer assisted living, memory care, adult day programs and respite care. The facility will have a total of 59 apartments, several common areas for residents to gather for activities and dining and a beauty and barber salon, among other features.

The Beacon Neighborhood will be dedicated to residents experiencing memory loss. This neighborhood is key pad-protected and will offer a dedicated coordinator for this unique lifestyle. Each area in the community will have enclosed courtyards for residents to enjoy. The community is a single-story design and will provide a variety of apartment home styles. Residents will bring their own furnishings and keepsakes so the apartment can truly be made their own.

Discreet and dignified personal assistance, if needed, is accessible and provided. The facility also provides personal emergency pendants for each resident as well as an emergency alert button located in all residents' bathrooms. Benton House staff will also be able to assist residents with medication management and coordination of other support services, including assistance with long-term insurance and veterans support.



Photos by Susan Griffin

**St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Isabelle Rodriguez-Renault addresses those in attendance of the groundbreaking event.**

Those in attendance of the groundbreaking ceremony included Chamber President & CEO Isabelle Rodriguez-Renault and Michael Allard, Sandy Cooper, David Hubble, Sheila Martin, Jennifer Brewer, Julia Banks and Teresa Bowens of Principal Senior Living Group. The event included comments from both parties before the groundbreaking took place.

Visit [bentonhouse.com/stjohns](http://bentonhouse.com/stjohns) for more information.

## Tips to improve memory

When people reach their 50s, chemical and structural changes in the brain may begin to occur, and these changes can affect a person's ability to process memories.

Father Time may be a formidable foe, but people can take steps to give their memories a boost as they get older.

■ **Embrace recognition instead of trusting recall.** Dr. Joel Salinas, a neurologist who specializes in behavioral neurology and neuropsychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, noted that human beings are better at recognition than recall. That means people are more likely to remember something they read, such as a note or a list, than something they're simply told.

■ **Recognize the value of repetition.** The Harvard Medical School noted that people might be more inclined to remember what they hear if they repeat it out loud. Names and addresses might be more easily remembered after they're repeated out loud because repetition increases the likelihood that the brain will record the information and be capable of retrieving it later. When studying for exams, many students repeat important points to themselves time and again, and that same approach can be applied by adults who are trying to improve their memories.

■ **Eat a healthy diet.** A study published in 2015 in the journal *Neurology* found that people who eat healthy diets with lots of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and fish and little alcohol and red meat may be less likely to experience declines in their memory and thinking skills. Authored by Andrew Smyth of McMaster University in Ontario and the National University of Ireland in Galway, the study followed more than 27,000 people in 40 countries for an average of roughly five years. All participants were 55 and older and had diabetes or a history of heart disease, stroke or peripheral artery disease. Those who ate the healthiest diets were 24 percent less likely to experience cognitive decline than people with the least healthy diets.

■ **Break things down.** Breaking things down into small chunks also can help improve memory. If tasked with remembering something extensive, such as a speech, focus on a single sentence at a time, only moving on to the next sentence when you're confident you have successfully committed the preceding sentence to memory.

Periodic memory lapses are often nothing to worry about. But men and women concerned about maintaining their memories can employ various strategies to do just that.

## Volunteers needed at Council on Aging

The St. Johns County Council on Aging is looking for volunteers to help with a number of activities.

Volunteers are needed at The River House (179 Marine St. in St. Augustine) in the kitchen. Volunteers are also needed in St. Augustine to help in the native plant garden. In addition, the Sunshine Center Adult Day Care needs

volunteers to help with activities such as art, music, games and exercise from Monday to Thursday.

THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center needs volunteers from 1 to 4 p.m. to help with front desk reception duties, setting up games, encouraging participation in activities and light cleanup. Additionally, the Ponte Vedra Memory

Care Center is looking for volunteers to help with receptionist duties as part of the Integrative Memory Enhancement Program, from Monday to Thursday. Duties include answering phones, greeting visitors and providing referral services.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, call (904) 209-3686 or email [aleach@stjohnscoa.com](mailto:aleach@stjohnscoa.com).

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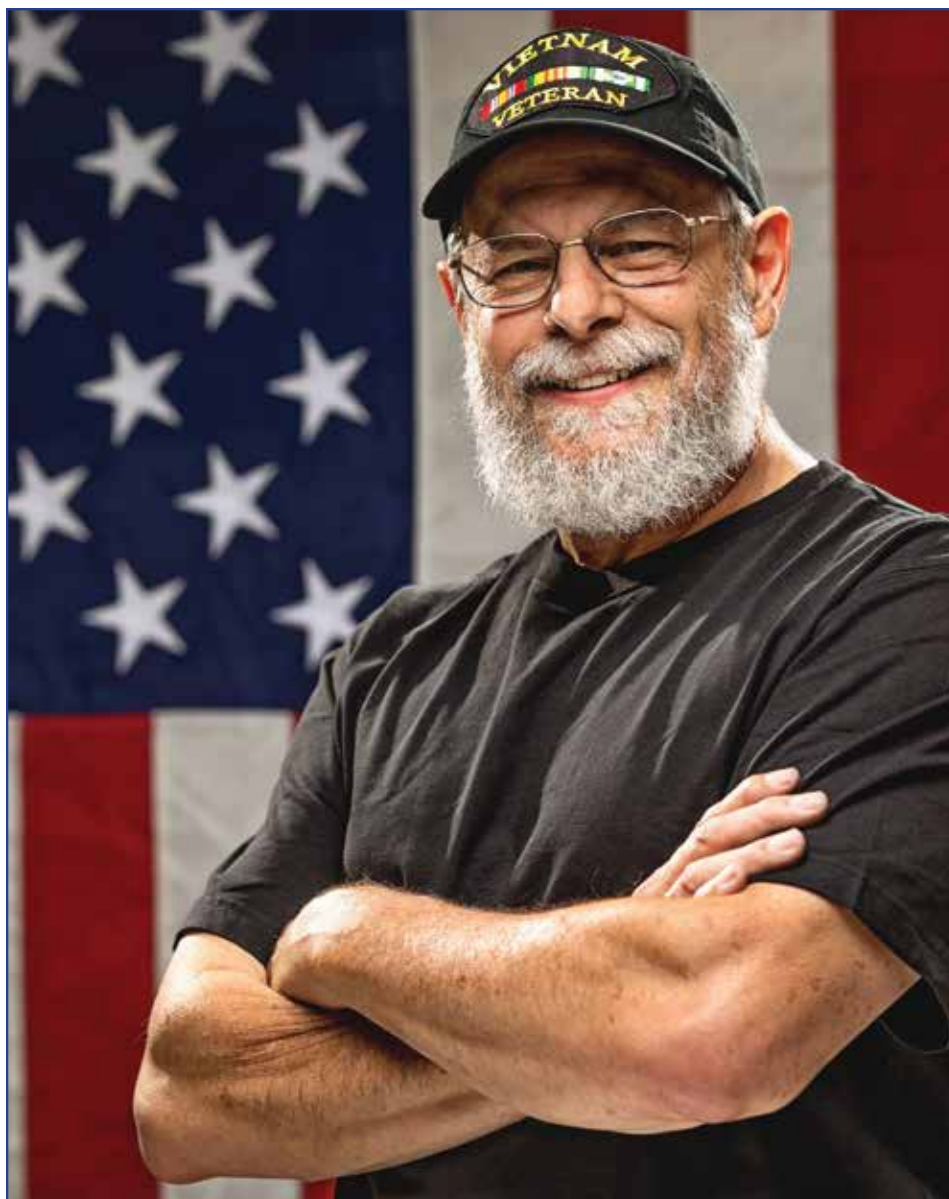
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*"I've proudly served as Chairman of the Community Hospice Veterans Partnership (CHVP) since 2011. CHVP partners with veterans service groups throughout the community to listen and learn how Community Hospice & Palliative Care can best serve our unique needs."*

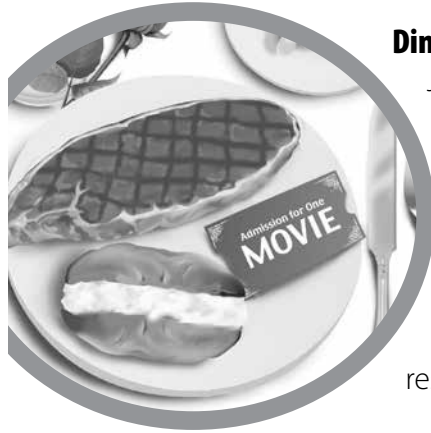
**Bob Buehn, Captain, United States Navy (Ret.)  
Chairman, Community Hospice Veterans Partnership  
(2011 - present)**



# Upcoming St. Johns County Council on Aging events, activities

The St. Johns County Council on Aging will host the following events and activities at the River House — located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine — and THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center — located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.

## RIVER HOUSE EVENTS



### Dinner and a movie

Join moviegoers for a movie night on Thursday, May 17 at 4:30 p.m. Admission costs \$15 for River House members and \$20 for non-members. In addition to dinner, guests will receive a soft drink and popcorn. Beer and wine will be available at an additional cost. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a seat.

### Spring Fling Dance Show

The Spring Fling Dance Show will take place Thursday, May 17 at 10 a.m. in the River House Ballroom. Dancers and instructors will showcase their skills in this complimentary program. Guests can enjoy a bite to eat in the café afterward.

### Books & Bites with Authors

Books & Bites with Authors will take place Thursday, May 24, featuring Stroke Educator Dr. Tom Broussard from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Broussard will discuss his "Stroke Diary" trilogy while guests munch on goodies from the café. Signed copies of his books will be available at an additional cost. Seating is limited, and reservations are required by May 18. Call (904) 209-3655 to register. Admission costs \$10 members and \$12 non-members.



### AARP driver improvement class

The Council on Aging and AARP will sponsor a class for mature drivers (55 and over) to help senior drivers practice their skills. This class will be held May 31 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a spot. The cost at the door is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-AARP members. Bring an AARP card for discount eligibility.

### Genealogy

Join the River House for a six-week course on researching family histories. Visitors will learn the tips and tricks to enable them to navigate branches of their family tree. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a spot. Admission is \$30 for River House members and \$35 for non-members. Classes begin on June 5.



### Computer basics

Learn the basics of navigating a computer, the internet and various Microsoft programs. The class will also feature discussions on how to avoid online scams and tips on social media platforms, such as Facebook. Call (904) 209-3655 for a reservation. Admission is \$30 for River House Members and \$35 for non-members. Classes begin on June 5.

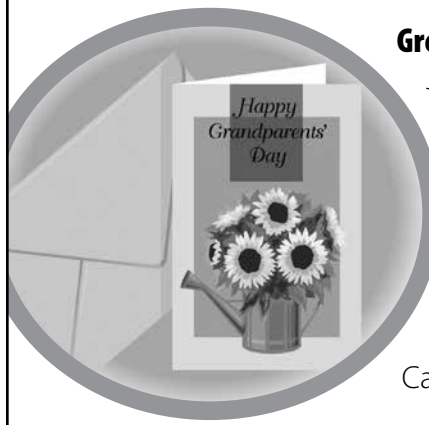
### Drawing 101

Guests interesting in learning to draw can participate in this easy four-week class on Wednesdays starting June 6 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Participants will learn the basics of line drawing, composition, shading and one-point perspective. Admission is \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members, which includes a drawing journal, pencil and eraser. A list of additional supplies needed will be given out on the first day of class. Enrollment is limited; call (904) 209-3655 to book a reservation.



### Art appreciation lecture

"Salvador Dali & Surrealism," presented by Jean Serusa (BS, MS), a certified New York state art educator, will allow guests to explore intriguing works of Dali along with the rise and circumstances of the Surrealism movement of the 1930s. This event will take place June 7 from 10 to 11 a.m. Admission costs \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members. Call (904) 209-3655 to register.



### Greeting card creations

Join the River House on Monday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to learn how to make greeting cards for every occasion. Participants will learn the basic techniques and supplies needed to make unique cards from home. Admission costs \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Supplies are included. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations.

### Financial Fridays

Join the River House on the final Friday of the month to discuss financial issues impacting senior citizens. Various local professionals will share their knowledge, tips and expertise to assist seniors with numerous financial situations. Call (904) 209-3655 to make a reservation for the next session, set to take place June 29.

Photos courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

## THE PLAYERS COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

**Honoring Choices presented by Community Hospice:** It's all about the conversation – May 17 at 11 a.m.

**Kelly with EOC presents Hurricane Preparedness:** Preparing for the next hurricane – May 22 at 11 a.m.

**Megan Wall** discusses Predatory Lending – May 24 at 11 a.m.



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## Silver Creek holds spring fashion show

Silver Creek Senior Living hosted a spring fashion show on Thursday, April 12.

Residents of the St. Augustine retirement community modeled the latest spring Chico's apparel at the event, and guests had an opportunity to do custom shopping after the show.

The event featured a 50-50 drawing that benefited the St. Johns County Council on Aging. In addition, wine and cheese was available for guests to enjoy.

For more information on Silver Creek, visit [silvercreekretirement.com](http://silvercreekretirement.com).



Photos by Susan Griffin

**Residents of Silver Creek in St. Augustine participate in the facility's recent spring fashion show.**



**Chico's Ponte Vedra Assistant Manager Linda Fazio addresses the attendees of the fashion show.**



**Silver Creek Community Outreach Coordinator Ilene Thrasher addresses those in attendance at the fashion show.**

## Westminster Woods on Julington Creek holds cabaret performance for residents

Westminster Woods on Julington Creek was alive with the sounds of music by Julie Andrews recently as cabaret singer, Shana Farr, entertained over 200 residents and staff performing many of Andrews' most well-known songs.

The event, held in the River Lounge overlooking Julington Creek, included tunes such as "The Sound of Music," "I Could Have Danced All Night," "In My Own Little Corner," "My Favorite Things," "A Spoonful of Sugar" and one of Andrews' greatest hits, tongue twister "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

Prior to the event, a donor reception was held in the auditorium as guests had the opportunity to meet and greet Farr and her accompanist, Angel de Armendi, and have their pictures taken with the artist.

"Music is the language of the soul," said longtime resident Lloyd Umbarger. "My wife Sarah and I enjoyed the concert very much and are looking forward to future performances."

The concert is the first of many events hosted by Westminster Woods



on Julington Creek's Cultural Endowment Committee and the Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation.

"The Cultural Endowment program at Westminster Woods provides opportunities for our residents, no longer able to do so, to attend top tier performances of the arts," said Amanda Birch, executive director. "Spouses who no longer live together because of care needs, are



**ABOVE: Cabaret singer Shana Farr and Westminster Woods on Julington Creek residents Tom and Mary Mackner**

**LEFT: Farr performs for the residents of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek.**

Photos courtesy of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek

now able to enjoy each other's company at an entertainment venue worthy of celebration."

Westminster Communities of Florida is a faith-based, not-for-profit organization inspired by a mission of serving older adults. The organization has been touching lives through service since 1954, and to date has served more than 7,000 residents in 21 communities.

## Guidelines to consider when visiting loved ones in assisted living facilities

For many seniors, a day arrives in their lives when it is no longer safe or practical to live at home alone.

Assisted living facilities can help seniors adjust to their new situations. Such facilities typically offer comfortable surroundings, caring staff and all the amenities of home.

Although fellow residents can provide companionship and friendships can develop over the course of time, assisted living facility residents also enjoy regular visits from family and friends. Such visits keep seniors connected with their loved ones and break up routines that, over time, may become monotonous.

Some people may feel anxious or awkward visiting assisted living facilities because it may shed light on the frailties or specialized needs of loved ones. This may be especially true if a loved one has a physical, neurological or mental illness. Rather than avoiding visits, individuals can follow these guidelines.

### Time visits right

Many residents have the most energy in the morning or early afternoon right after meals. Call ahead to find out if there are any medical appointments or outings planned. Visiting during meals or activities can be fun because you'll be engaged and will have something to keep both of you busy.

### Limit distractions

Find a quiet and comfortable place at the facility where you can spend time with your loved one. This way you can focus most of your attention on the person you are visiting, and he or she can do the same. A sitting room or an outdoor area can be a nice place to spend time away from television or other people's conversations.

### Plan an excursion

If you are able to take the resident off of the property, arrange to take them somewhere that would interest them. Do not plan too much, because you want the excursion to be fun, not taxing.

### Bring along items

Gifts are not necessary, but photos, books, puzzles or even keepsakes from home can serve as catalysts for wonderful conversations.

### Help the conversation along

If a loved one has dementia, visits can be especially challenging. However, simply being present can be comforting for the person even if conversation is stilted. Be patient and positive. Find topics that stimulate responses, and fill in if things get quiet.



Attendees of the Windsor at San Pablo's "Pie in the Face" fundraiser on April 18 participate in the pie-tossing action to support the fight against MS.

## Windsor at San Pablo supports fight against MS with fundraiser

The Windsor at San Pablo in Jacksonville held a "Pie in the Face" fundraiser on Wednesday, April 18, to support the fight against Multiple Sclerosis.

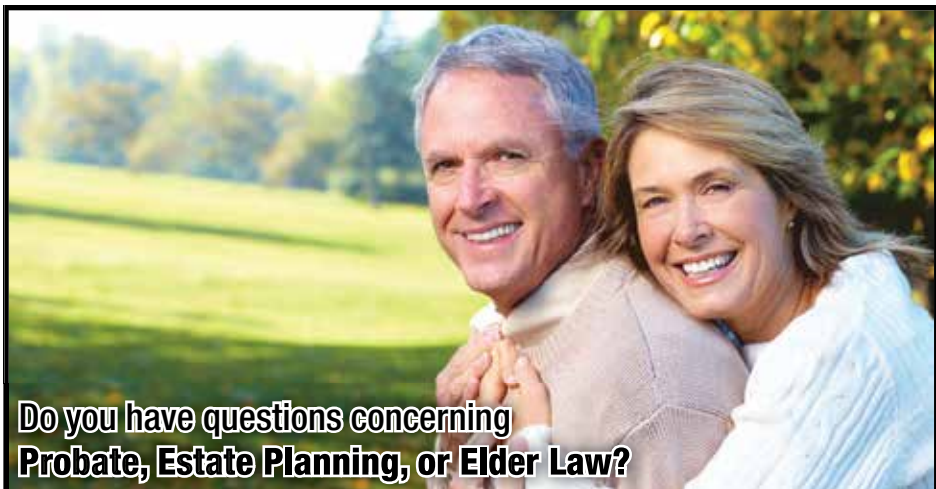
Those in attendance had the opportunity to throw pies into the faces of The Windsor's management, as well as enjoy refreshments. The pies were made by the facility's residents and Chef Craig Meyer.

For more information on The Windsor, visit [www.legendsseniorkiving.com/locations/the-windsor-at-san-pablo.php](http://www.legendsseniorkiving.com/locations/the-windsor-at-san-pablo.php).

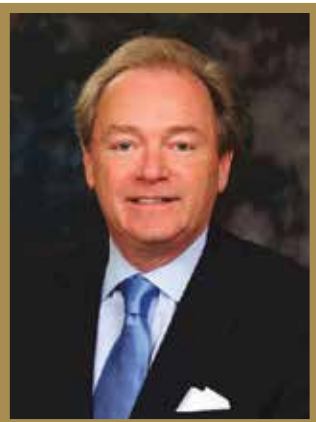


Photos by Ed Johnson

Alissa Searcy, sales director of The Windsor; Hans Boehmer, health assistant; and Sondra Sharp sales associate at The Windsor



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# Learn to downsize before a move

Aging men and women often take inventory of their lives to focus on activities or lifestyle changes that can ensure happy retirements.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows there are some 76 million baby boomers — those people born between 1946 to 1964 — across the country. With the youngest of the boomers in their mid-50s and the majority having already reached retirement age, many boomers are trying to decide if it's time to move out of their family homes and into smaller, more manageable abodes.

Many older adults find they do not need the same amount of space as they did when they had children living at home. Retirees and those on the cusp of retirement may find that downsizing is a smart financial move that frees up more time for recreation.

However, it can be challenging to cut down on living space and then deal with figuring out how to make furniture, belongings and stored items fit in more condensed areas. Moving can be stressful even without having to cut down on prized items. Taking an inventory of belongings can help the process go smoothly.

Before moving, men and women can go room by room, making piles of items that will be kept, donated, sold or discarded. This can be a tedious task, but it is necessary to avoid clutter in a new home.



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

**Many older adults find they do not need the same amount of space as they did when they had children living at home.**

People downsizing can attempt to sell items they do not need via newspaper classified sections or online classified sites. Appliances and furniture in excellent shape may fetch good prices. Any extra cash can be put toward buying new items that are size-appropriate for the smaller home.

Another way to clear out clutter is to sort duplicates from the stock of items. A person may no longer need multiple sets of dishes or silverware. If the move involves switching from a king-sized to a queen-sized bed, donate or trash bed linens that will no longer fit. Pay close attention to kitchen and bathroom items, which tend to accumulate over time but might not be discarded when clearing a home of clutter.

People moving from a detached home to a condominium or a townhouse may

learn that homeowner's association fees cover everything from snow removal to lawn maintenance to pool upkeep. If so, it's unnecessary to bring lawn and garden supplies.

Homeowners are advised to look at the floor plan of their new dwellings and pay attention to storage space. This can make it easier to plan ahead for what may fit, what will need to be purchased new and which storage solutions may be needed. Having a plan in place can make unpacking and settling in go smoothly. The organizing company Organize Me said that homeowners should consider how cabinets and closets will be used before moving in.

Downsizing can free up time and money. When done right, downsizing can make retirement easier and create more leisure time for retirees.

## Baby boomer care on the rise



**Ric Schilling**  
Columnist

**By Ric Schilling**

I have long advocated that people prepare for the future rather than merely take what outcomes the future has in store for them. One area that particularly concerns me is the

potential use of long-term care services.

According to the Social Security Administration's Life Expectancy Benefits Planner, men aged 65 can expect to live, on average, to 84.3 years. On the other hand, women aged 65 can expect to live, on average, until age 86.6 years. These are just averages. One out of every four 65-year-olds today will live past age 90, and one out of 10 will live past the age of 95.

The use of long-term care services is skyrocketing, as is the cost for those services. If you are not prepared for this situation, you could either be severely impacted financially or, worse, be unable to get the care you require.

There are three trends that concern me:

1. The probability of needing long-term care services is roughly proportionate with age. For example, according to Medicaid.gov, an 85-year-old has an 85 percent chance of using some level of long-term care services before they die. So, as our average life spans increase as noted above, a larger percentage of the elderly population will require long term care services than ever before.

2. As you know, the baby boomer generation has begun to retire, with the first boomers (those born in 1946) hitting age 72 this year. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are well over 75 million baby boomers, so the number that will ultimately need long-term care services is likely to be huge in relation to the availability of such services.

3. While neither Medicare nor Medicaid pay for home care or assisted living services, Medicare pays for some nursing home care under certain circumstances and Medicaid pays for nursing home care for indigent persons. As our population ages and the use of long-term care services expands, state Medicaid programs are running short of funds and, as a result, are reducing daily payments to nursing homes almost every year. Given that Medicaid covers about 70 percent of all nursing home patients, nursing homes are finding themselves unable to survive financially on these limited reimbursements for 70 percent of their business and many are closing their doors.

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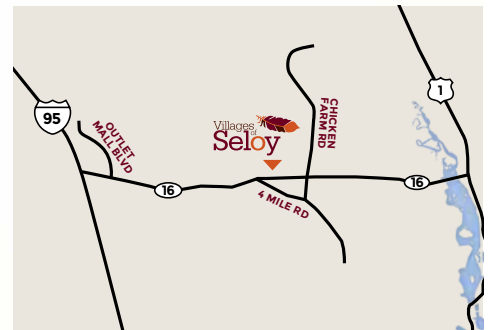
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# How older adults can reduce risk of recurrent stroke



**Dr. Anthony Magnano**  
Guest columnist

## By Dr. Anthony Magnano

Special to the Recorder

According to the CDC, nearly 800,000 Americans experience a stroke every year, and roughly one in four of these cases are second,

or recurrent, strokes. In addition, per the National Stroke Association, having a stroke dramatically increases your risk of another one, especially in people ages 65 and older.

The good news is that up to 80 percent of recurrent strokes can be prevented by managing risk factors like high blood pressure and atrial fibrillation (AFib), again according to the National Stroke Association. During May's National Stroke Awareness Month, it's important to take the time to learn how to reduce your or your loved one's risk of recurrent stroke.

## The prevalence of recurrent strokes

Within five years of suffering a stroke, your risk of having another one increases by more than 40 percent, according to the CDC. Recurrent strokes are more likely to affect older adults who experience 75 percent of all strokes, says the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. They also have a higher risk of mortality and disability, as the parts of the brain previously injured by the original stroke may not be as resilient.

Recurrent strokes are often caused by risk factors that were present when the previous one occurred. These include high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking and diabetes. However, one of the leading causes of stroke people may not know about is AFib.

## The role of AFib in stroke risk

AFib is the most common heart arrhythmia and increases your stroke risk by five times. In fact, AFib is present in one out of every five stroke cases,

according to the American Heart Association.

The reason AFib is such a potent risk factor is because the upper chambers of the heart (or atria) do not contract properly, allowing blood to pool in a cavity known as the left atrial appendage. The pooled blood can form a clot that travels to your brain's arteries, interrupting blood flow and leading to a stroke.

Asymptomatic, or "silent," AFib is particularly dangerous as people don't know to seek treatment for it. Analysts from the American Heart Association report that screening for silent AFib among adults 65 and older could prevent thousands of strokes worldwide every year.

## Steps to prevent second strokes

When it comes to preventing recurrent strokes, the best defense is a good offense. The vast majority can be prevented with diligent monitoring and lifestyle changes. According to the American Heart Association, some of the top ways to help prevent a second stroke include:

- Monitoring your blood pressure
- Controlling your cholesterol
- Keeping your blood sugar down
- Being active
- Eating better
- Losing weight if you need to
- Not smoking
- Keeping alcohol intake under one drink per day for women and two for men
- Considering testing for and treating sleep apnea
- Talking to your doctor about whether aspirin or other medications are right for you

Having a stroke can be a life-altering and difficult experience, but it's also an opportunity to re-evaluate your lifestyle. By fully understanding your health, you can reduce the risk of recurrent stroke and make changes to improve your overall well-being.

**Dr. Anthony Magnano is a Ponte Vedra resident and cardiac electrophysiologist at St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside. For more information on Dr. Magnano and his specialty treating atrial fibrillation, visit [AfibJax.com](http://AfibJax.com).**

**Men and women over 50 who have retirement savings deficits may need to go beyond depositing more money in their retirement accounts in order to live comfortably and pay their bills in retirement.**

Photo courtesy of [metrocreative-connection.com](http://metrocreative-connection.com)



# How to save more for retirement after age 50

Whether it's advice from their parents, a response to television ads urging viewers to save for retirement or their own financial savvy, many of today's young professionals recognize the importance of saving for retirement from the moment they receive their first paychecks. But men and women over 50 may not have been so practical, and many such professionals may feel a need to save more as their retirements draw ever closer.

Saving for retirement might seem like a no-brainer, but the National Institute on Retirement Security notes that, in 2017, almost 40 million households in the United States had no retirement savings at all. In addition, the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that Americans have a retirement savings deficit of \$4.3 trillion, meaning they have \$4.3 trillion less in retirement savings than they should.

Men and women over 50 who have retirement savings deficits may need to go beyond depositing more money in their retirement accounts to live comfortably and pay their bills in retirement. The following are a few simple ways to start saving more for retirement.

■ **Redirect nonessential expenses into savings.** Some retirement accounts, such as IRAs, are governed by deposit limits. But others, such as 401(k) retirement plans, have no such limits. Men and women can examine their spending habits to find areas where they can cut back on nonessential expenses, such as cable television subscriptions and dining out. Any money saved each month can then be redirected into savings and/or retirement accounts.

# A Daily Money Manager can assist day-to-day financial details for seniors

Ever heard yourself say, "I thought I paid that bill last month" or "not another late fee for my credit card?" Perhaps a Daily Money Manager (DMM) could help.

You might think, "I have an investment person." Well, a DMM is different. DMMs work with individuals and families to assist with the day-to-day financial needs including:

- Bill paying, including calls to payees regarding incorrect bills and preparation of checks for client signature
- Reconciling checking accounts and investment statements
- Making bank deposits
- Organizing tax documents
- Providing organizational assistance
- Referring clients to legal, tax, and investment professionals as well as other community resources
- Reviewing mail
- Organizing and maintaining files
- Providing notary Services

A DMMs clients include high net worth families and seniors needing efficiency and oversight for day-to-day finances, such as working with insurance companies for the best rates and paying the associated taxes on properties. Each client's unique needs are outlined with tasks determined on a case-by-case basis.

DMMs also educate individuals to become better equipped to manage their new financial picture, such as a widow, a caregiver of an ill spouse or a newly divorced individual needing assistance in budgets and bill pay.

DMMs are often tasked with jobs that require coordinating with other professionals such as CPAs, attorneys, financial advisors, real estate professionals, insurance agents and healthcare managers. DMMs work with insurance professionals to ensure that clients have adequate insurance coverage, and they also work with resources in assisting with managing clients' healthcare costs and billing issues.

For questions or more information regarding the role of a DMM, visit [www.aadmm.com](http://www.aadmm.com) (American Association of Daily Money Managers). You can also contact Heather Jackson, CEO at Jackson Personal Financial Services, LLC, at (904) 699-3728 or go to [www.Jacksonpfs.com](http://www.Jacksonpfs.com).

# Schilling

Continued from 40

So, the picture is basically this: The probability of using care is increasing, the length of time one is using care is increasing, the percentage of our population in the age group most likely to need care is increasing and the amount that Medicaid can pay for care on an individual case basis is decreasing. As a result, nursing homes are going out of business. Not a pretty picture.

My advice for you is to either sequester sufficient resources to pay for care in the future and not tap these funds for other uses, or secure some form of insurance coverage to pay for these services should the need arise. If you don't adopt one of these two strategies, you put yourself in the position of either bankrupting yourself trying to pay for care (which will get much more expensive in the future) or relying on Medicaid to pay for your care, which is problematic at best. Worst case — you just cannot get the care you need. Talk with your insurance professional about the

various insurance plans and products that are available to determine which approach might work for you.

(Certain information found at <http://a.msn.com/00/en-us/BBJN9HD?ocid=se>)

**Frederic "Ric" Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, FL. Ric is President of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on Senior Issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Contact Frederic: 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: [www.seniorguardian.com](http://www.seniorguardian.com)**

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# Silver Creek to appraise antiques, heirlooms at upcoming event



Photo courtesy of Silver Creek

**Gary Piattoni of "Antiques Roadshow" will be in St. Augustine on May 17 to evaluate the treasures of residents, courtesy of Silver Creek.**

Because some things are simply more appreciated with age, Silver Creek in St. Augustine is hosting free Antiques & Heirlooms events on Thursday, May 17, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Registered attendees may bring a treasure for expert evaluation by Gary Piattoni, an appraiser on PBS' "Antiques Roadshow;" a contributor to New York magazine, Town & Country and Chicago magazine; and a former specialist with Christie's fine art auction house in New York. Piattoni will tell the story of each item's history and determine its potential market value, just as he has on "Antiques Roadshow" for the past 20 years.

To attend the free event, a reservation is required as space is limited. Interested parties should call (904) 810-0444. Firearms, jewelry, stamps and coins cannot be appraised at the event, and there is a limit of one item for appraisal per attendee. Silver Creek is located off Highway 207 at 165 Silver Lane in St. Augustine.

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69						70				71				
72						73				74				

## THEME: MOUNTAINS & RANGES

### ACROSS

- Meat jelly dish
- \*Sierra Nevada country
- Cut the crop
- Bake an egg
- Cattle prod
- Notre-Dame sounds
- Orange type of tea
- Hula dancer's necklace
- Door fasteners
- \*North American Cordillera's highest peak
- \*Himalayan peak
- \*Type of resort
- Monetary unit of Xi Jinping's country
- Nothing alternative
- Big rig
- Bloody Mary juice
- Byproduct of combing wool
- Hermes and Apollo
- Whitman's famous flower reference
- Small European freshwater fish
- "This \_\_\_\_\_" on a box
- Country dance formation
- \_\_\_\_ vs. pathos
- Swing seat?
- Long adventure story
- Japanese warriors' religion
- Red Cross supplies

- Duke of Cambridge to Prince of Wales
- Foot curve
- Boiling blood
- \*Highest mountain in Cascade Range
- \*Highest peak in Russia
- "\_\_\_\_\_ a high note"
- Increase
- Shrek and Fiona
- Deals
- Just one of #61 Down
- Annie Oakley's show
- What Simon does
- "Swan Lake" steps
- Lumberjack's leftover

### DOWN

- Nile reptile
- Type of outbuilding
- Toothy freshwater fish
- Jordan Spieth's 3-9
- Floorboard sounds
- Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon
- Farewell in France
- \_\_\_\_-view mirror
- Alleviate
- \*Strictly European mountain range
- "\_\_\_\_, over here!"
- \_\_\_\_ red, in a chemistry lab
- City in Belgium
- Giant pot

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3			2			8		
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						7	1	

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.

- "Fiddler on the Roof" language, originally
- \*World's longest mountain system
- Averse
- Chinese fruit
- \*\_\_\_\_ Blanc
- One thousandth of a liter, pl.
- Spy's cover
- Argentine dance
- \*\_\_\_\_ Ridge, word's longest underwater range
- Kings of \_\_\_\_ band
- "Why not?"
- Jeopardy
- "Tide" target
- Mine percolates
- Move like ivy
- Cereal killer
- Cold War enemies
- Dwarf buffalo
- Lazily
- Rejections
- Unagi, pl.
- Pakistani language
- Give an impression
- \*Mauna \_\_\_\_, Hawaii's highest peak
- Oreo to milk

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Photos courtesy of The Palms at Ponte Vedra

Barbara Craig and Marilyn McGuckin with her daughter Jane Weden

# The Palms at Ponte Vedra holds Mother's Day Tea

Residents of the Palms at Ponte Vedra enjoyed a Mother's Day Tea on Sunday, May 13 to celebrate the occasion.

The annual event gathered over 100 people, including residents of the memory care and assisted living facilities, as well as their family members. Attendees enjoyed an array of food, including oyster shooters, smoked salmon and chicken salad sandwiches, as well as chocolate-covered strawberries, cheesecake bites and other desserts created by the culinary team at the Palms.

In addition to live entertainment, attend-

ees of the event enjoyed hearing from various family members who shared touching stories about the residents. The Palms also honored moms at the event with the most children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One mom in attendance was even honored for having a great-great-grandchild. Another mom was honored for having the most "experience" as a mother. One of the facility's nurses also shared a poem.

Visit [www.palmsatpontevedra.com](http://www.palmsatpontevedra.com) for more information on The Palms at Ponte Vedra.



Paula McGarvey and mother Pauline Shepard



Ruth Kistler and daughter Vicky Brock



Betty Costantino and daughter Sharon Costantino



Daniel Miller with mother Mary Miller

## Longtime River Garden leader retires

After six decades of service to River Garden Senior Services, Sheldon Gendzier has decided to "retire."

Gendzier joined River Garden's board in 1958 following in the footsteps of his father and father-in-law, who both served as president of the facility's board of directors. He himself was president from 1969 to 1972.

Over the past 60 years, Gendzier has held virtually every major board and committee position. As chair of the Master Planning Committee, he was a principal figure in the Home's decision to move from Riverside to Mandarin in 1989. When it became clear that River Garden needed to expand its therapy and outpatient programs, Gendzier again chaired the Master Planning Committee and oversaw a 10,000-square-foot addition and facility refurbishment. He also played a critical role in building The Coves, River Garden's independent living community. He and his wife, Estelle, have made it their home for the past eight years.

Gendzier was honored for his many years of volunteer service at River Garden's Anniversary Day festivities in March. The 89-year-old now becomes a lifetime honorary trustee.

"Individuals of Sheldon's character and commitment do not come along all that often," said River Garden CEO Marty Goetz.



Photo by Larry Tallis

River Garden Senior Services Board President Gloria Einstein and Hebrew Home Board President Susan Cohen present the Lifetime Honorary Trustee award to Sheldon Gendzier, who recently announced his "retirement."

"But when they do, they make all the difference in the world. Thank you, Sheldon, for making a difference in our lives and for our community."

River Garden Senior Services is a not-for-profit, mission-driven community agency offering an array of elder care programs and services on a 40-acre campus in the Mandarin area of Jacksonville. Sponsored by the organized Jewish community, River Garden serves clients from diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds while maintaining an environment supportive of Jewish identity and informed by Jewish values.

The River Garden campus includes:

River Garden Hebrew Home, a 180-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility; The Coves at River Garden, an 80-unit independent living community; River Garden Home Health Care, a Florida-licensed and Medicare-certified home health agency; River Garden Rehab, providing short-stay rehabilitation and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies; River Garden Adult Day Care; The Albert Z. Fleet Geriatric Training Center, providing continuing education, training and professional advancement for staff; and River Garden Foundation, providing financial support to the River Garden system of senior services.

## Saving

Continued from 42

■ **Reconsider your retirement date.** Deciding to work past the age of 65 is another way men and women over 50 can save more for retirement. Many professionals now continue working past the age of 65 for a variety of reasons. Some may suspect they'll grow bored in retirement, while others may keep working out of financial need. Others may simply love their jobs and want to keep going until their passion runs out. Regardless of the reason, working past the age of 65 allows men and women to keep earning and saving for retirement, while also delaying the first withdrawal from their retirement savings accounts.

■ **Reconsider your current and future living situation.** Housing costs are many people's most considerable expense, and that won't necessarily change in retirement. Even men and women who have paid off their mortgages may benefit by moving to a region with lower taxes or staying in the same area but downsizing to a smaller home where their taxes and utility bills will be lower. Adults who decide to move to more affordable areas or into smaller, less expensive homes can then redirect the money they are saving into interest-bearing retirement or savings accounts.

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Hani Issa, MD

Raphael Tito  
Balbino, MD

**OBITUARIES**

**Patricia Blankenbaker**

Patricia Denise Blankenbaker (Winkie), died peacefully May 8, 2018. She was surrounded by her loving family and her husband, Myron Blankenbaker.



Patricia Blankenbaker

Patricia was born Aug. 22, 1957, in Mooresville, Indiana. She and her husband relocated to Jacksonville from Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1988, and resided in Atlantic Beach. Patricia was a 28-year employee of Mayo Clinic at the Jacksonville campus. She was proud of her medical career and her contributions to the growth of Mayo's Southeast facility.

Patricia was known for her unique sense of humor, her decorating talents, passion for Christmas and her love of animals. She is survived by her husband and her two sisters, Penny Hornaday and Phyllis Martfeld.

A viewing was held Tuesday, May 15, and was followed by a Celebration of Life service Wednesday, May 16, at the Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home at 4750 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. Should you choose, contributions can be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) or the Humane Society.

Please sign the online guestbook at [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com).



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**Elizabeth DeSalvo**

Elizabeth Ann DeSalvo, 89, of Jacksonville Beach, died May 8, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Denny Fogle**

Denny Lee Fogle, 76, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died April 21, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**LaRue Hunter**

LaRue Gordy Hunter, 93, of Atlantic Beach, died May 10, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Gene Lewis**

Gene H. Lewis, 93, of Atlantic Beach, died May 4, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**JoAnne McKinney**

JoAnne McKinney, 77, of Jacksonville, died May 7, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Samuel Odom**

Samuel Richard Odom, 76, of Jacksonville Beach, died May 4, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Robert Selby**

Robert Selby, 79, of Jacksonville, died May 10, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Claire Senecal**

Claire Marie Senecal, 74, died May 7, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com).

**Michael Treston**

Michael James Treston, 34, died May 2, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com).

**John Vergo**

John Michael Vergo, 22, died May 4, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com).

**Robert Wolf**

Robert Andrew Wolf, 80, of Atlantic Beach, died May 6, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

**Melvin Young**

Melvin Leonard Young, 89, of Jacksonville, died May 8, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.



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# Business Weekly

New name and  
practice areas for Florida  
Women's Law Group

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PAGE 48

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## Local students participate in FedEx Junior Business Challenge qualifier at THE PLAYERS

By Benjamin Naim

Junior Achievement of North Florida students participated in the second annual FedEx Junior Business Challenge qualifying event at THE PLAYERS Championship on Wednesday, May 9, to determine who would advance to the finals in Atlanta for a chance to win a \$75,000 donation to their local chapter. "Tropical Wave" by Rosa Santos, a healthy food truck concept providing nutritious fruit snack alternatives, was selected to advance.

The panel of judges who evaluated each team's business pitch featured 2014 FedEx Cup champion Billy Horschel, 2016 Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin, seven-time Olympic gold medalist Shannon Miller and CEO/Lead Designer of In Blue Handmade Mary Lynn Schroeder. Todd Lewis of the Golf Channel hosted this year's event.

Santos, the only participant to present her business concept alone, said she was shocked that she won.

"I was like, 'Am I third place, am I second, am I first?'" Santos said to the media. "Nothing goes through my mind, the only word I can say is 'Wow' ... it's just me and the strength of God. It's a blessing."

Santos credited God and her mother for giving her the strength to present the concept alone and spend long hours and sleepless nights building a business plan.

Other participants included "Logical Luxuries" — a chap stick ring concept — "Hygiene for Everyone," "The Brothers Business" and "Let's Rec" — an app designed to connect users to others looking for outdoor recreational activities.

The FedEx Junior Business Challenge is part of the FedEx Cares global giving initiative, a program by the corporation aimed at investing \$200 million in over 200 global communities around the world by 2020. Since 1996, FedEx has donated more than \$14 million to JA Worldwide in support of young entrepreneurs and small businesses.

JA Worldwide is one of the largest global non-governmental organizations dedicated to addressing the fundamental social and economic challenges faced by young people through education and empowerment. With more than 100 member-countries, the JA Worldwide network features 470,000 volunteers and mentors. For more information on the nonprofit, visit [www.JAWorldwide.org](http://www.JAWorldwide.org).



**ABOVE:** Billy Horschel, Shannon Miller, Rosa Santos, Mary Lynn Schroeder and Denny Hamlin pose for a photo following the FedEx Junior Business Challenge qualifying event at THE PLAYERS on May 9.

Photo courtesy of Kim Hennen

**LEFT:** "The Brothers Business" shares its concept, athletic wear with pockets, at the FedEx Junior Business Challenge event.

Photo by Benjamin Naim



# GTM Research Reserve receives Outstanding Business Partner of the Year Award

The Guana Tolomato Matanzas Research Reserve (GTM) recently received the 2018 Outstanding Business Partner of the Year Award from the St. Johns County Career Academies. The award is given annually to community partners supporting one or more career academies for a number of years on a consistent level.

“We are honored to receive this award for the second time from our community partners,” said Dr. Michael Shirley, director of the GTM Research Reserve. “Our environmental education team has been working with this organization for over six years now.”

The reserve also received the award in 2011-12. The GTM education staff works with the Environmental Science strand of

the Academy of Engineering and Environmental Science at Creekside High School, conducting vegetation site assessments in the uplands forest. Additionally, students in the Academy of Coastal and Water Resources at St. Johns Technical High School helped build the reserve’s paved sensory trail. After Hurricane Irma, GTM worked with both schools during a marine debris cleanup. Each year, the reserve’s education team mentors new career academies recruits.

The St. Johns County Career Academies depend on the business community to support education programs for local students. In 2017-18, there were 120 business partners working with the 19 career academy programs.



Photo courtesy of Florida Department of Environmental Protection

**GTM Environmental Educators Emma Hanson, Josie Spearman and Gabby Canas accept the Outstanding Business Partner of the Year Award, which was given to them by the St. Johns County Career Academies.**



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# Ponte Vedra gets new radio station at 95.7 FM

Locally-owned and operated WSOS Radio, LLC has announced the launch of a new radio station in St. Johns County at 95.7 FM that will broadcast from a tower in Ponte Vedra and serve Ponte Vedra,

Nocatee and Southeastern Duval County.

The new station will simulcast the classic hits format currently airing on 103.9 FM St. Augustine.

“Adding 95.7 to WSOS’s broadcast

will enable us to reach inside an estimated 80,000 additional homes and 100,000-plus vehicles,” said Kevin Geddings, owner of

**RADIO continues on Page 51**

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Source: Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce  
Shapiro Group, 2012.

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## Private Beach Access in the Heart of Ponte Vedra Beach

There's a rare opportunity for elegant living in an exclusive setting quietly removed in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. A place where residents find themselves in an enviable location. Come home to EvenTide.



Life at EvenTide offers a special amenity that few other communities can match – your own private access to one of the most spectacular beaches in the southeast. At EvenTide, each of our 23 homes will have private access to the gated entry of this secluded stretch of sand. This stretch of coastline enjoys a unique, preferred position, far from high-density coastal developments, parking and public access areas, offering a gem of coastal solitude.

Embraced by the Atlantic Ocean and the Guana River, EvenTide is a setting worthy of the home of your dreams. Punctuated with coquina

shores and championship golf courses, EvenTide offers 23 estate-sized homesites in the most desirable zip code in northern St. Johns County.

“EvenTide is the perfect blend of luxury and serenity, and one of the most exciting new projects in Northeast Florida,” said GreenPointe Holdings President and CEO Ed Burr. “We have worked diligently to preserve the integrity of the land as reflected in the majestic oak trees surrounding the community and the neighborhood park that offers spectacular views of sunsets over the Guana River.”

This new preferred address along Ponte Vedra Boulevard between Sawgrass Drive and Mickler Road, offers residents an exceptional neighborhood setting. Homesites range from approximately a third of an acre to over an acre. Buyers have the opportunity to select one of EvenTide's **preferred builders, Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco and Glenn Layton Homes**, or a custom homebuilder of their choice. “We've established guidelines to reflect the community's architectural vision and to ensure the highest construction standards are incorporated in the design of each home,” said GreenPointe Communities' North Florida Regional President Mike Taylor. “EvenTide will showcase a signature coastal-eclectic style and boast a connection between architecture and environment.”

EvenTide is marketed exclusively by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty in partnership with GreenPointe Communities. “We are thrilled to be affiliated with this property,” said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Founder, President and CEO Linda Sherrer. “EvenTide is a crown jewel and certain to be the area's preeminent address for buyers looking to build their dream beach home.”

The community is located at 1044 Ponte Vedra Boulevard in Ponte Vedra Beach, near elite clubs, golf courses, specialty boutiques and dining destinations. EvenTide is zoned for St. Johns County's A-rated public schools.

EvenTide homesites start from the \$600s.

For a limited time buyers receive up to 10% discount on homesite, plus \$50,000 towards landscape and outdoor features.\*

“EvenTide is as unique as the shells found along the water's edge. From ocean breezes and easy access to the Atlantic Ocean's breathtaking sunrises, to simply relaxing at the site of a blazing sunset over the Guana River; these are just a few of the moments to be enjoyed here,” said Gaynelle James, Marketing Director for Greenpointe Communities.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Realtors Lee Elmore and Elizabeth Hudgins are leading the sales effort at EvenTide with three homesites already under contract. For more information about EvenTide, call Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Realtors **Elizabeth Hudgins** or **Lee Elmore** at (904) 285-5499 or visit [www.EventideLiving.com](http://www.EventideLiving.com).

\* See sales associate for full details



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Photo by Susan Griffin

Representatives from the JAX Chamber of Commerce and St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce gather with representatives from Florida Women's Law Group to celebrate the firm's new name and practice areas.

## Florida Women's Law Group celebrates new name, practice areas

Florida Women's Law Group, which was formerly known as the Quick Law Group, launched its new name and practice areas of estate planning and appellate services with a dual ribbon cutting ceremony with the JAX Chamber of Commerce and St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Monday, April 30.

The event included other local businesses such as Julie Ryan Photography

and Frenchy's Wellness Spa, who provided chair and hand massages. Florida Women's Law Group works to advocate for women in the legal arena, where often women feel the effects of gender bias.

The firm educates women on their rights and the law so they can find the strength to endure the process and live life to the fullest. Visit [thequicklawgroup.com](http://thequicklawgroup.com) for more information.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Representatives from NuMoon and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division celebrate the business' new Chamber membership with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

## NuMoon joins Chamber of Commerce

NuMoon Regenerative Medicine recently hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate its new membership with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

Located at 115 Professional Drive in suite 104D in Ponte Vedra Beach, NuMoon is a specialized medical practice that focuses on the natural healing prop-

erties of patients' own blood, called platelet rich plasma (PRP), to help promote healing of injured or diseased tissues.

Dr. Marisol Arcila Moon focuses less on medications and more on safer and more natural ways to restore function and quality of life to her patients.

Visit [www.numoonprp.com](http://www.numoonprp.com) or call (904) 580-6777 for more information.



Jenny Krebs, Joan Refosco, Mark Refosco, Billie Jo Burr and Ed Burr

Photos courtesy of EvenTide

## GreenPointe Communities hosts Cocktails by the Coast at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach

More than 200 special guests recently attended Cocktails by the Coast at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach to get an introduction to the area's new neighborhood by GreenPointe Communities.

In addition to gourmet hors d'oeuvres, libations and live music by Barrett Thomas, guests enjoyed the neighborhood's scenic views as the sun set over the Guana River and learned more about the community.

"We appreciate the enthusiastic response we have received since announcing EvenTide and we are thrilled a record number of guests could join us for our unveiling celebration for this spectacular community," said GreenPointe Holdings President and Chief Executive Officer Ed Burr. "EvenTide is a rare opportunity to build a distinctive new construction home along Ponte Vedra Boulevard. With its private deeded beach access, this premier property is truly worthy of the home of your dreams."

Located along Ponte Vedra Boulevard between Sawgrass Drive and Mickler Road, EvenTide is an intimate enclave planned for 23 coastal eclectic-style homes designed to complement the surrounding natural environment. GreenPointe Communities and EvenTide's preferred custom homebuilder team, Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco and Glenn Layton Homes, have created a portfolio of home designs to meet the needs of every lifestyle.

Construction is underway on a new showcase home designed exclusively by EvenTide by Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco. This West Indies-style home of more than 4,800 square feet embraces Ponte Vedra-style living with 2,000 square feet of covered outdoor living area overlooking the pool.

GreenPointe Communities has worked to preserve the integrity of the land with the oak trees surrounding the community and the Sunset Park with views of the Guana River. Located at 1044 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, the community is within minutes of elite clubs, golf courses, specialty boutiques and dining destinations with easy access to Jacksonville, St. Augustine and major employment centers. EvenTide is zoned for A-rated public schools in the St. Johns County School District.

Homebuyers also may engage with their own custom builder to bring their home vision to reality. EvenTide is marketed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. The community's 23 estate-sized homesites range from approximately a third acre to more than one acre and are priced from the \$600s with pre-construction incentives for a limited time.

For more information on EvenTide, call Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Realtors Elizabeth Hudgins or Lee Elmore at (904) 285-5499.

## Radio

Continued from 49

WSOS Radio, LLC. "Because of a variety of FCC regulatory limits, 103.9 FM can't reach many people in Nocatee and Ponte Vedra — the new simulcast on 95.7 FM will address that.

"St. Johns County radio listeners will now be able to access our classic hits of the 60s, 70s, 80s; updated hourly weather forecasts; local community spotlight interviews; high school and Flagler College sports coverage on 95.7 FM, 103.9 FM and 1170 AM," Geddings continued. "WSOS also streams live at [www.staugustineradio.com](http://www.staugustineradio.com) and via the WSOS app available at the Apple app store and Google Play."

Geddings purchased WSOS 1170 in 2012 and added an FM simulcast at 103.9 and now 95.7. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted the company's request for the new station at 95.7 on Jan. 3, 2018. Since then, WSOS has worked with Alsobrook Electronics Inc. — also of St. Johns County — to build out the new station on a 500-foot tower located at U.S. 1 and the Nocatee flyover.

"I live in St. Johns County and it is important that we have our own radio stations that solidly cover every inch of this wonderful place," Geddings said. "Often, our weather, traffic and local news are different from what Jacksonville radio stations are airing. We will be aggressively marketing the new 95.7 FM in Nocatee and Ponte Vedra to make sure residents there know they have a new local FM radio station."



# MAY IS NATIONAL PET MONTH

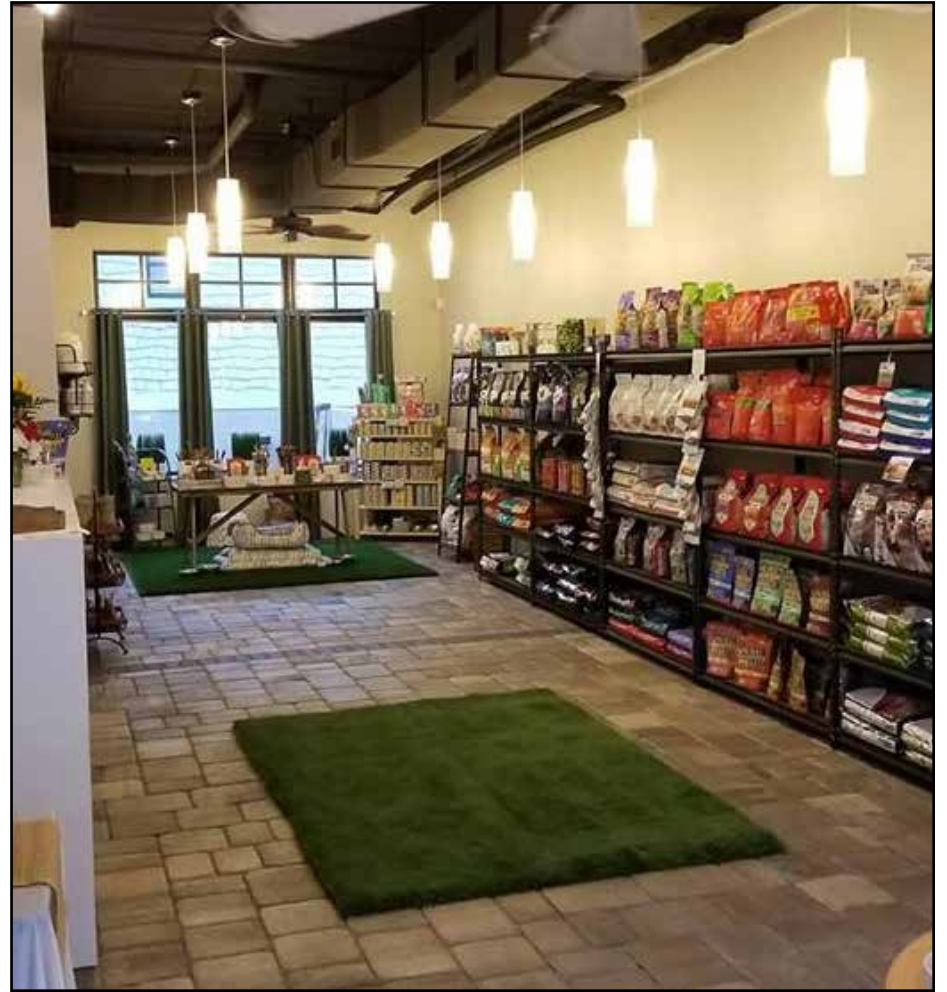


## WHISKER LANE PET BOUTIQUE OPENS IN PALENCIA

A new pet boutique offering high quality food products and specialty items has opened in Palencia. Whisker Lane is located at 631 Market Street in St. Augustine and is owned by Christine Bouchard and Ria Bailey. For more information, visit Whisker Lane on Facebook or call (904) 907-1200.



Photos provided by Whisker Lane



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Photo courtesy of Pamela Riley

OPES students and staff present a check for \$250.10 to K9s for Warriors after holding a fundraiser at a recent book fair.

# OPES students raise funds for K9s for Warriors at recent book fair

Contributed by Ocean Palms Elementary student Lauren Thompson

Ocean Palms Elementary School's recent Scholastic Spring Book Fair featured a student-led fundraiser that ultimately raised \$250.10 for K9s for Warriors.

Known as Pennies for Puppies, the fundraiser collected change from OPES students. The funds will contribute to food, dog supplies and training for the local nonprofit.

Fourth-grade ambassador-in-training

Lauren Thompson received permission from her principal to build a team for the fundraiser and raise money at the fair. Her team — consisting of third grader Carter Penella and fourth graders Emily Silber and Brianna Müller — helped promote the fundraiser on the school news and via posters.

OPES Principal Tiffany Cantwell said the school will be hosting Pennies for Puppies again next year.

Visit [www.k9sforwarriors.org](http://www.k9sforwarriors.org) for more information on K9s for Warriors and to donate.

# A few great reasons to adopt your next pet

There is no end to the companionship, love and joy a pet can bring to one's life.

That is perhaps one reason why the number of pets surrendered to shelters each year so greatly upsets animal lovers. But the same places that house animals that were lost or abandoned can be the very locations where families find new pets to love.

The ASPCA estimates that 6.5 million companion animals enter animal shelters in the United States each year.

Animal shelters, rescue groups, pounds and humane societies are great places to begin searching for new companion animals. The organization DoSomething.org states that, each year, approximately 2.7 million dogs and cats are euthanized because shelters are too full and there aren't enough adoptive homes. Homeless animals outnumber homeless people five to one. While private breeders and reputable pet stores may have purebred animals that make great pets, to relieve the problems of relinquished or homeless pets residing in crowded shelters,

prospective pet parents are urged to first consider adopting shelter pets. The following are reasons why adopting shelter dogs or cats is such a great idea.

■ **Well-behaved animals:** The Humane Society of America says most shelter pets end up in facilities not because of behavioral issues or something they did wrong, but due to circumstances affecting their owners, such as moving or divorce. That means there are thousands of housebroken, behavior-trained pets just waiting for a new family.

■ **Lower costs:** When a person adopts a pet, microchipping, first immunization costs, neutering/spaying and some vet costs may be covered by the adoption fee. Plus, that adoption fee can be hundreds of dollars less than purchasing a pet from elsewhere.

■ **Longer life expectancy:** The Canine Journal says "mutts," or animals whose genetic makeup are a combination of at least two breeds, tend to have fewer health problems and live longer than their purebred counterparts. But

shelters also house many purebreds for those who prefer to go that route.

■ **Room for others:** For every adopted cat or dog, room is freed up to take in more pets that need assistance.

■ **Hurt puppy mills:** Puppy mills

produce pets in factory-style facilities that seldom take the welfare of animals into consideration. Adoption hurts puppy mills' bottom lines and helps fight against their inhumane breeding techniques.

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# Local groomers host nationally recognized certification event

Dog groomers from Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee attended a two-day workshop and certification event by the National Dog Groomers Association of America (NDGAA) April 29 and 30 at Green Dog Spa in Jacksonville. The workshop drew 40 participants to the mother-daughter-owned facility.

“We chose NDGAA because of their availability of offering testing sites, their 45-year experience and their reputation,” Green Dog Spa owner and event sponsor Erica Benson said. “We want the public to be aware of the credentials, because, so far, it is not a regulated industry. When, and if, the state decides to regulate the pet-grooming industry — like they do for nail and hair salons — we can demonstrate that we already meet high standards that make sense for breed standards and safety.”

The entire process can take many years to earn the coveted title of Nationally Certified Master Groomer, said Benson. Participants groom four dogs, take three different tests and then take the master test. Groomers previously had to travel to a city where testing is offered and arrange for dogs to be available for the hands-on portion of the test.

Due to the success of the Jacksonville-based event, the NDGAA invited Benson and her mother/Green Dog Spa owner Lynn Lamoureux to host the next workshop in 2019. Additionally, Lamoureux and Benson will offer monthly classes (the first is scheduled for May 27 from 10 to 11 a.m.) to help the community learn about the grooming process.

For more information on Green Dog Spa, National Dog Groomers Association of America and more, contact Erica Benson at (904) 553-5727 or visit [www.greendogspa.com](http://www.greendogspa.com).



**ABOVE:** Dog groomers participate in a two-day workshop and certification event by the National Dog Groomers Association of America (NDGAA) April 29 and 30 at Green Dog Spa in Jacksonville.

**LEFT:** Green Dog Spa co-owners Erica Benson and Lynn Lamoureux recently hosted and sponsored a two-day workshop and certification event by the National Dog Groomers Association of America (NDGAA).

Photos courtesy of Jayne Krichbaum

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Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

# Sheraton Jacksonville Hotel to hold third annual 'Mutts and Mimosas' event

The Sheraton Jacksonville Hotel is hosting the third annual "Mutts and Mimosas" event on Saturday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To be held on the patio of the hotel, the event will feature a brunch buffet, mimosas, live music and a silent auction, with proceeds benefiting the Friends of Jacksonville Animals. This organization works directly with Jacksonville's Animal Care and Protective Services to benefit the lives of shelter animals by focusing on fundraising to assist with medical care, enrich the shelter environment and promote adoptions to reduce euthanasia.

Friends of Jacksonville Animals will accept the following donations on behalf of the shelter on the day of the event: canned dog food, canned cat food, spray cheese, Velveta cheese blocks, Pup-Peroni soft dog treats, Milk Bones dog treats, medium and large Kongs and medium and large snap dog collars.

Mutts & Mimosas hotel packages are available, including a one-night stay on June 15 and two tickets to the event on June 16 that include brunch and bottomless mimosas.

For more information, visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/mutts-mimosas-tickets-43946532261](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/mutts-mimosas-tickets-43946532261).

# After losing a pet, when is it time to love again?

The passing of a pet can be an experience similar to losing another important member of the family. Even though the loss is inevitable, it can still be shocking when a pet passes away.

Upon the death of a pet, many pet owners need some time to mourn and grow accustomed to living without their pet. Though some might prefer to adopt a new pet shortly after a pet dies, others may need time to decide if this is the right decision. The following are some factors for pet owners to consider, courtesy of Vet Street, WebMD, Bark and RainbowsBridge.com, as they try to decide what to do after losing a pet.

### Home doesn't feel complete

Many previous dog owners feel their homes are empty or not complete without the presence of a four-legged friend. People who live alone and relied on a recently deceased pet for companionship or safety may consider adopting sooner than busy families or those who have roommates to keep them occupied.

### Why get another pet?

Pet owners must ask themselves why they want another pet. If the main rea-

son is to dull the pain of loss, it may be better to wait until something other than emotion is driving the decision.

### Other pets/people

If there are other pets in the house, think about how they may react to having a new addition in the house. Just because one person is ready for the responsibility of a new pet doesn't mean everyone is. All opinions and personalities should be considered and all voices heard before bringing a new pet into the home.

### Is it time for a break?

Some pet lovers may need a break from the responsibility of pet ownership, especially if a recently deceased pet was difficult to care for in its final years.

### Existing lifestyle

New pets may require a decade-plus commitment. While it may have been easy the first time around, those who are facing retirement and the possibility of travel or have children leaving the home may want to think about whether or not pets suit their current or future lifestyles.

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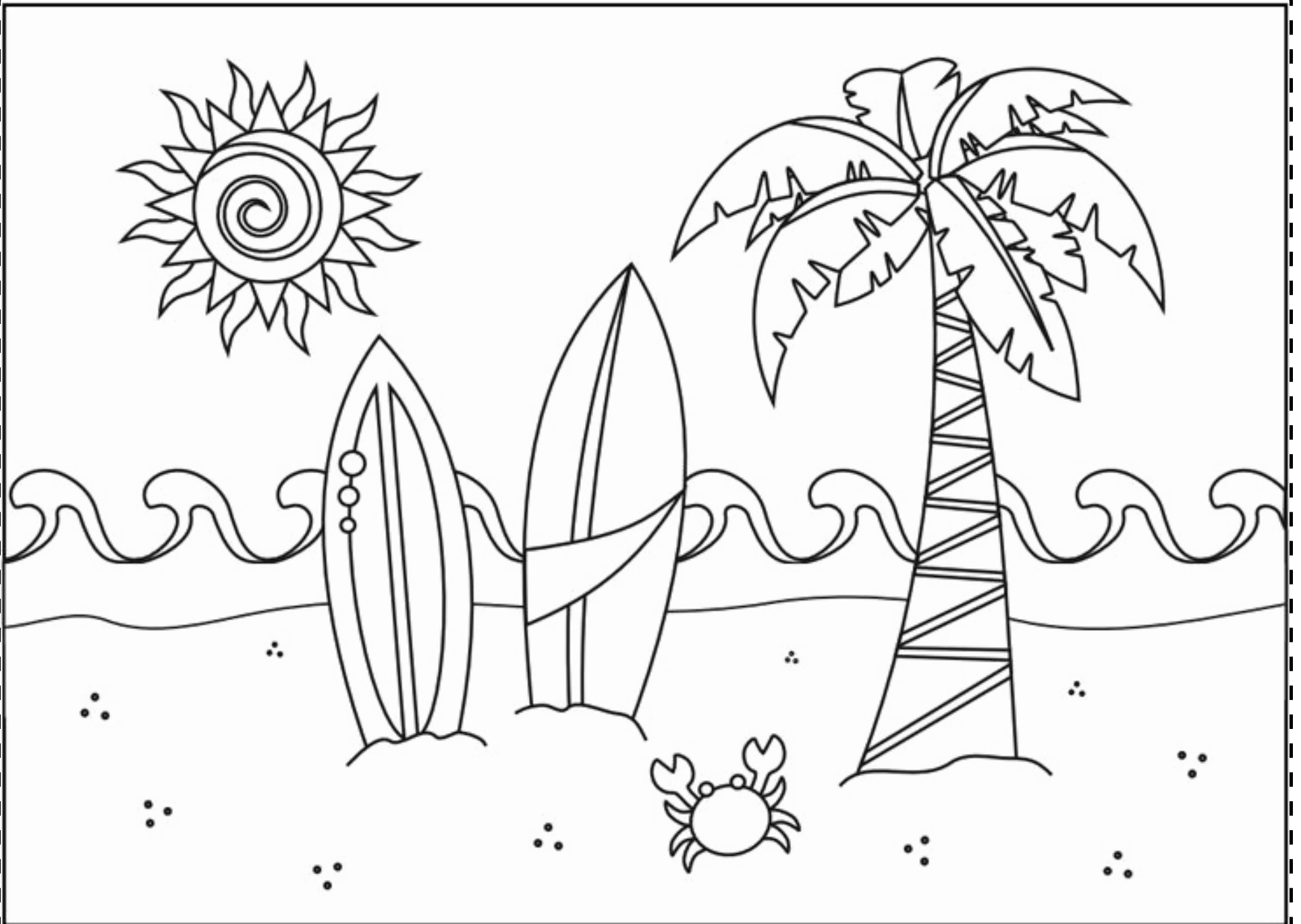
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# Cultural Center announces summer camps, workshops for young artists

Summer arts camps and workshops for ages 4-5, 6-8 and 9-14 will take place on a weekly basis at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach between June 4 and Aug. 3.

The Mini Creators camp for ages 4-5 will run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Youth Arts Camps for ages 6-8 and Artist Academy for ages 9-14 will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Professional artists and arts instructors will lead each age group through fun arts activities to develop creativity and grow as an artist. The Artist Academy will focus on a single medium or style each week. Focuses will include portraits, ceramics and expressionism. The younger age groups will spend each day creating with a wide variety of styles and mediums, connected by a fun, kid-friendly theme, such as "All About Animals" or "Recycled Art."

Alhambra Theatre Camps are another popular option and are offered through a partnership of The Cultural Center and Alhambra Theatre & Dining. This two-week camp will end with a performance and dinner, so the young actors can show off what they've learned.

Age groups of 9-12 will perform June 18-29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and age groups 13-16 will perform July 9-20 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. This year, actors and actresses will be performing the musical "Don't Stop Believin'."

Visit CCPVB.org to learn more and to register a young artist.



Photos courtesy of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

**An artist academy attendee draws a still life in the Cultural Center's iPad Media Arts Workshop.**



**Past campers create Matisse-inspired bowls.**

# First Coast Opera to hold auditions July 1 for 2018-19 season

First Coast Opera in St. Augustine is holding auditions for singers on Sunday, July 1, from 1:30 to 5 p.m. for the 2018-19 season.

Auditions are by appointment and will be held at Ancient City Baptist Church at 27 Sevilla St. in downtown St. Augustine.

Auditions are for all roles in the 2018-19 season, which includes:

- Bernstein's Broadway – Oct. 11-13, 2018
- Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro) – Jan. 5-6, 2019
- Tribute to Marian Anderson & Friends – Feb. 22-24, 2019
- Family Opera Festival – Spring 2019

Singers of all levels are welcome. Both paid and volunteer positions are available. Additional auditions may be held in September 2018. Some roles may be filled outside of auditions.

Auditioners should be prepared to sing one or two selections. A pianist will be provided. Singers must provide sheet music for the pianist. There is no cost to audition.

To schedule an audition time, contact Artistic Director Curtis Tucker by email at ctuckermusic@gmail.com, indicating your preferred audition time. Singers not scheduled in advance will be heard on a space-available basis. In-person auditions are preferred, but singers unable to attend the auditions may be considered by submitting photo, resumé and either audio/video files or links to online sources.

For more information about the company, visit [www.firstcoastopera.com](http://www.firstcoastopera.com) or [www.facebook.com/firstcoastopera](http://www.facebook.com/firstcoastopera).

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Daughter Laura serves as chairman of the Benefactor Committee, and son Max was awarded Standard Bearer of the Year in 2009.

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Photos courtesy of the Jacksonville Symphony

**American conductor Kazem Abdullah will lead the Symphony's program May 18-20.**



Photo by Matt Dine

**ABOVE: Julian Schwarz, a prize-winning cellist, will join Abdullah and the Symphony.**

**RIGHT: Composer Lowell Lieberman will be part of a pre-concert talk before each performance.**



## Jacksonville Symphony to celebrate American composers in American landscapes

The Jacksonville Symphony will present a program celebrating American composers May 18-20.

The program is titled American Landscapes and features works by Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, Duke Ellington, Lowell Liebermann and Howard Hanson. The piece written by Liebermann is a new work for cello and orchestra that was a joint commission by orchestras including the Jacksonville Symphony.

Leading this program of American works is American conductor Kazem Abdullah. Since 2012, Abdullah has been Generalmusikdirektor of the City of Aachen, Germany, where he leads both the orchestral and operatic seasons. Recently, he was nominated by critics in Die Welt, as best conductor in the state of Nordrhein-Westfalen for his conducting of "Brokeback Mountain," "Tosca" and "Tannhäuser."

In 2009, Abdullah conducted a 12-city tour of the United States with Orquestra de São Paulo, one of Brazil's most celebrated ensembles. Internationally he has made appearances with ensembles including the St. Gallen Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony, the Boca del Rio Philharmonic and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

Joining Abdullah and the Symphony for the Concerto for Cello and Orchestra is cellist Julian Schwarz. He was born to a multigenera-

tional musical family in 1991. Heralded from a young age as a cellist destined to rank among the greatest of the 21st century, Schwarz's powerful tone, effortless virtuosity and extraordinarily large color palette are hallmarks of his style, according to the Symphony. In 2016, Schwarz won first prize at the Boulder International Chamber Music Competition's "The Art of Duo" with Canadian pianist Marika Bournaki.

Featured on this program is a work by modern composer Lowell Liebermann. He will be in Jacksonville for the performances and will speak during the pre-concert talk, Insight, an hour before each Masterworks concert. Liebermann has written over 130 works in all genres, several of which have gone on to become standard repertoire for their instruments. His Sonata for Flute and Piano and Gargoyles for piano are among the most frequently performed contemporary works for their instruments.

There are three performances on this program: Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19, both at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 20 at 3 p.m. All performances will take place in Jacoby Symphony Hall. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Ticket Office at (904) 354-5547 or visit JaxSymphony.org. People can also visit the Ticket Office Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Season Finale for St. Augustine Orchestra to evoke great summer concerts of the past

The St. Augustine Orchestra's season finale "One Night Only" will kick off Memorial Day Weekend with an orchestral tribute to some of the great touring pop artists of recent decades.

The audience will visit the "Hotel California", a "Bridge over Troubled Water", feeling "All Shook Up," and will be "Feeling the Love, Tonight" by the end of the concert.

"Pops concerts are a tradition for symphony orchestras and have been around for about 100 years — the word is short for 'popular' music," said Scott Gregg, music director and principal conductor. "I'm pleased for us to have a happy concert to start the long weekend and end our current season."

The pops concert will take place Thursday, May 24 at 8 p.m. at the Lighter Museum in the "swimming pool" and will feature the works of Barry Manilow, Billy Joel, Elvis Presley, Duke Ellington, Simon and Garfunkel, The Eagles and a selection of show



Photo courtesy of Sheila Kolesaire

tunes from "Porgy & Bess" and "The Lion King."

Tickets are available online at [staugustineorchestra.ticketleap.com/one-nightonly](http://staugustineorchestra.ticketleap.com/one-nightonly), and tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are free for children 10 years old and younger, \$12 for youth 11-17 and \$22 for adults 18 and older.

The St. Augustine Orchestra is one of the city's longest running cultural entities, playing for 56 years. Guided by a mission to expand awareness and music appreciation, the orchestra's approach is to provide quality live performances at an affordable cost to the community.



Photo courtesy of Barbara Milon

**Artist Joyce Gabiou stands with some of her artwork.**

## Artist Joyce Gabiou to speak before Society of Mixed Media Artists May 19

East Arlington resident and artist Joyce Gabiou will be the featured guest speaker at the Society of Mixed Media Artists (SoMMA) meeting Saturday, May 19. To be held at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach at 50 Executive Way, the meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and all are welcome.

For her presentation, Gabiou will demonstrate "The Art of Layering with Collage

and Mixed Media," outlining the steps to create a piece from start to completion.

Art critic Brian Sherwin has described Gabiou's work as "powerful," stating, "Her methods are solid. I'm truly impressed."

Gabiou's artwork can be viewed at The Vault at 1930 in San Marco and at Village Arts Framing & Gallery in Ponte Vedra Beach.

# Artist Eugene Quinn to open Coquina Studio Gallery

Local artist Eugene Quinn will open his new studio, Coquina Studio Gallery, on Thursday, May 17, with a surf, beach theme exhibition of his newest paintings.

Featuring local surfing celebrity icons, Dick Rosborough, Mitch Kaufmann, Piper Austin, Tim Deegan, Justin Quintal, Jason Motes and others, patrons will have the opportunity to mingle with the artist and the surfers.

The opening will take place from 5 to 9 p.m. at Coquina Studio Gallery at 416 Third Street South suite 201 in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, visit [coquinajax.com](http://coquinajax.com).

**Eugene Quinn will display work like this piece (right) at his new Coquina Studio Gallery, which is set to open Thursday, May 17 in Jacksonville Beach.**

Photo courtesy of Mike Kaufmann



# Lineup for Jacksonville Beach Summer jazz series announced

The City of Jacksonville Beach, PRI Productions and 96.1 WEJZ are proud recently announced the lineup for the 16th Annual Summer Jazz Series.

This two-concert series is scheduled for Sunday evenings from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Sea Walk Pavilion on May 20 and June 10. Guests are encouraged to come out and enjoy the combination of exciting music performed by national recording artists, cool sea breezes and the rhythm of the ocean. Admission is free and open to the public. Guests should bring blankets or lawn chairs. Refreshments are available for purchase from local vendors. Enter-

tainment begins at 5:00 p.m.

This summer's schedule is as follows:

**May 20**

**5 p.m.:** Opening Act — Skyler Nolan

**6:15 p.m.:** Second Act — Urban Jazz Coalition

**7:30 p.m.:** Headliner — Nick Colionne

**June 10**

**5 p.m.:** Opening Act — Special Formula Band

**6:15 p.m.:** Second Act — Oli Silk

**7:30 p.m.:** Headliner — Mindi Abair

For more information, visit [www.jacksonvillebeach.org](http://www.jacksonvillebeach.org) or visit PRI Productions on Facebook.

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# Sports

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## Simpson overcomes TPC Sawgrass, ruling bodies to win THE PLAYERS Championship

By Kathy Bissell

It was his to lose.

Despite what Webb Simpson said Friday after his course record tying round of 63 — which was that no lead was safe — it was virtually impossible for anyone to catch him on Sunday. He had history on his side.

But Simpson, who finished 18-under 270, had more than a victory on Sunday, he overcame a rules change that damaged his career in his prime earning years. The putting style he had used to win the U.S. Open in 2012 was banned by the R&A and the USGA in 2016. It was not a pleasant time for him.

Simpson tried conventional putting, but finally settled on a style preferred by Matt Kuchar and allowed by the USGA.

However, it was a tip from Tim Clark — who is now out of golf, some say due to injury and some say due to the ban of the anchored putter — that turned his game around 12 months ago.

“He (Clark) asked me had I ever tried the claw grip, and I said no,” explained Simpson. “It felt pretty awkward.”

Before the first round of THE PLAYERS in 2017, Simpson’s caddie, Nocatee resident Paul Tesori, asked him if he was going to use the claw.

“I said, ‘I still don’t know,’” recalled Simpson. “But I warmed up with it, and it felt pretty good, and last year, especially the first two days, was the best I had putted in a long time.”

He had a year of practice before creating a seven shot lead going into the final round of THE PLAYERS. Historically, that was insurmountable. In all the rounds that have been played on the PGA Tour, no one has ever lost a seven-shot lead.

The only question that remained was would he break Greg Norman’s 1994 scoring record of 24-under par for the tournament? It would have been a fitting way to celebrate the last time THE PLAYERS was held in May. (THE PLAYERS Championship 2019 will be held March 12-17.)

### The rest of the field

Galleries were lined up five to 25 and more deep, depending on whether there was a viewing mound. At the start, you could see between a quarter and a half-mile of fans stretching from the practice area to the first green. It wasn’t possible to see that until the course was redone, so that there are broad expanses of grass and less structures. More like Augusta National, if you have been there. (I’m sure that’s the plan.)

Rising above those lines of fans were even more people packing the left side of the second hole and the left side of the third hole, the first par



Photos by Chris Norton

Webb Simpson putts on the green during THE PLAYERS Championship at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass.

three, where you can watch the tee and the green without moving. Many were waiting for Tiger Woods and Jordan Spieth to make a run.

As the afternoon progressed, Woods was one of a handful who did deliver a charge. Playing four groups ahead of Simpson, he moved early, with birdies at the third, fourth and fifth. He saved par at the eighth by hitting an explosion out of a greenside bunker and banking the ball off the slope on the right side of the green. It rolled to within three feet.

He birdied No. 9 from the swale right on the green and turned in 32. He would have to go much lower on the back side to scare Simpson into making mistakes.

There were five 32s on the front, and one of them belonged to Woods. Kiradech Aphibarnrat posted a 30.

Meanwhile, Simpson wasn’t giving up anything. He was steady through the first six. He birdied the seventh and bogeyed the eighth. When he turned in even par, it looked like Norman’s 24-under score would remain the lowest ever.

Simpson would have had to shoot 6-under in the final round to break the tournament record, and he was content with pars. He was safely ahead, and that was all he wanted.



Si Woo Kim (right), the 2017 winner of THE PLAYERS Championship, presents the trophy to 2018 winner Webb Simpson.

SIMPSON continues on Page 62

# Simpson's win at THE PLAYERS equates to hometown victory for Tesori

While Webb Simpson was on his way to tying the course record at TPC Sawgrass Friday at THE PLAYERS Championship and ultimately winning the tournament, his caddie's wife, Michelle Tesori, was also keeping track of another score outside the ropes.

"I've been keeping track of the number of people who have approached me today and said they know Paul (Tesori) or wanted to say hi," said Michelle on Friday of the tournament, who subsequently glanced at her phone to take note of a rising statistic. "We're at 40-something people."

By the end of the second round, in which Simpson finished 9-under 63 and atop the leaderboard at 15-under, the number on Michelle's phone had closed at 48.

"This is home for Paul," said Michelle. "This tournament means the world to him."

## Born and raised

Paul Tesori, 46, grew up down the road from TPC Sawgrass in St. Augustine. He fell in love with golf at a young age due to the influence of his grandfather, who was a starter at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club for 30 years.

His first golf tournament as a fan was in 1977 at THE PLAYERS Championship when the tournament was first played at Sawgrass Country Club across the street. At the age of 9, Paul played at TPC Sawgrass before it opened to the public, hitting balls from the dirt of No. 17 with his grandfather and the first course superintendent.

"I've played this course over 700 times in my life," said Paul, who lives with his family in Nocatee. "This place is extremely special to me."

Paul attended the University of Florida, where he played golf, and later played a few years himself on the PGA Tour. He ultimately transformed his playing career into a caddying career, working with Vijay Singh, Jerry Kelly, Chris Couch, Sean O'Hair and then Simpson, who hired Paul in 2010 after O'Hair fired him. In 2012, Simpson and Paul, who share a deep Christian faith, accomplished the pinnacle of their careers, winning the 2012 U.S. Open at the Olympic Club in San Francisco.

Now six years later, however, this past weekend's win at Paul's old stomping grounds may have trumped that milestone.

"It's different," said Paul to the Recorder after winning THE PLAYERS Championship. "The roots mean more than the U.S. Open. The experience of winning the 2012 U.S. Open will never be erased from my mind. But this one, it's different."

"I probably had a thousand people out there today, all praying for us because we needed every single bit of it, rooting, yelling and screaming," continued Paul. "These are friends I had growing up, from the time I was 5 years old that I got to see, to new friends we met in the church or the community."

## The mayor

After winning THE PLAYERS Championship at 18-under 270, Simpson himself acknowledged that Paul received more recognition and attention than he did.



Photos by Chris Norton

Paul Tesori, the caddie for THE PLAYERS Championship 2018 winner Webb Simpson and a Nocatee resident, surveys the field with Simpson on the final round of the tournament.



Simpson (right) and Tesori eye up their next shot.

"It was definitely Paul 100-fold," said Simpson. "I had to spend extra time in the morning warming up because he'd take forever to get from the putting green to the range. I call him the mayor. He's the mayor around here. Everybody loves Pauly."

One such reason for that love is the work that Paul and Michelle do in the community via the Tesori Family Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded by the couple in 2009 to help those in need in Northeast Florida. Following the birth of their son Isaiah, who has Down Syndrome, they expanded the organization to add programs for children with special needs.

On Wednesday, May 9, the Foundation hosted its annual All Star Kids Clinic at Sawgrass Country Club, gathering a group of local children with special needs for



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

Tesori kisses his wife Michelle after the victory.

a golf clinic that included a special demonstration with Jordan Spieth.

"It's such a special week for us," said Michelle. "We kick off this week with our All Star Kids Clinic, which is one of the most special things we do as a family together."

Fast forward four days, and Paul was able to win THE PLAYERS Championship with his family by his side, marking the first time he's won a tournament with his wife and two children, Alexis and Isaiah, all in attendance.

"I thought a ton of my son today, and I thought what would he say to me right now?" said Paul. "He'd say, 'Daddy, why are you nervous? What's the problem?' It was a calming influence thinking of him out there today. It was a hard round, and thinking about him calmed me down for sure."

So, this place — Ponte Vedra and TPC Sawgrass — and this tournament — THE PLAYERS Championship — will forever hold a special place in Paul's heart, making this past weekend's win all the more special.

"This is going to go down as my biggest enjoyment win for sure," said Paul, with a smile on his face and a tear in his eye.

# Simpson

Continued from 60

“Odds of him losing this are one in 20,” broadcaster Johnny Miller said about Simpson.

Woods birdied the 11th and 12th, but when he bogeyed the 14th, it seemed finished for him. He had climbed to within five shots of the lead, but with the bogey, mojo had moved on. At that time, he was five shots back with five holes to play.

Simpson remained stuck on 19-under, refusing to budge for Woods or anyone else.

The only way anyone other than Simpson could win, was if Simpson started making bogeys and doubles, which he refused to do.

When Woods drove into the right rough on the 16th, his chances were completely gone, and then things got worse for him. The 17th. Water.

At that juncture, there were about 12 players left on the golf course. None of them pressed Simpson. In all, it was amazing that so few golfers were able to mount a serious charge against Simpson after Friday, but the course is not user friendly.

Webb Simpson actually won the tournament on Friday and Saturday. His lead stymied the rest. He could only fire and fall back like ping pong balls thrown against a wall.

“I think he demoralized the field,” Miller said as Simpson walked to the 17th green.



Photo by Chris Norton

Caddie Paul Tesori and Webb Simpson and plan their next move during THE PLAYERS Championship.

For Simpson, THE PLAYERS victory came nearly six years after his U.S. Open title, and some will say it's his second major. However, more importantly for him, it was an extraordinary career comeback for someone who had previously been at

the pinnacle of the game and then, due to the whims of the R&A and USGA, fallen victim to a change in rules on equipment and method of play.

Simpson overcame more than past putting problems this week. He overcame two golf organizations that had conspired

against him to ruin his career. With the drop of the final putt, plenty of middle-aged men gave loud cheers from their sofas and bar stools saying, “Take that, ruling bodies.” Then they went out to the garage to find their old long putters to start practicing with the claw.

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Tiger Woods signs autographs for fans during THE PLAYERS Championship at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass.

# Tiger Effect takes Ponte Vedra by storm



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Woods was paired with Jordan Spieth during the final round of THE PLAYERS Championship.

By Jon Blauvelt

While Webb Simpson was slaying the Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass to ultimately win THE PLAYERS Championship 2018, Tiger Woods was simultaneously captivating the attention of thousands upon thousands of people who stormed upon Ponte Vedra Beach for the sole reason of watching him play the game.

From Thursday to Sunday, fans traveled in a mob mentality with Woods, sprinting from hole to hole and emphatically yelling absurdities like, “He’s like Elvis Presley,” and, “We want to roar with you, baby!” along the way. It was the “Walking Dead” meets “Caddyshack.” A strange combination but the truth.

Regardless of Simpson’s historic performances or those otherworldly golfers who were paired with Woods, such as Phil Mickelson, Rickie Fowler and Jordan Spieth, Woods, who finished 11-under 277 and tied for 11th, commanded the gaze and bewilderment

of the majority of fans in attendance at THE PLAYERS Championship. No other golfers, no matter their talent, fame or play, did the same.

The question of why produces a rather simple answer: He’s arguably the greatest golfer of all time, and people enjoy being in the presence of greatness. What becomes more interesting, though, is when you peel the onion back a few additional layers, and examine the fans who follow the man, the people with their iPhones raised high in the air and their children sitting upon their shoulders. Where do they come from? What are their stories? And what motivates them to fight the crowds and the heat, shot after shot, day after day and tournament after tournament, to ultimately watch one man play a game?

### Tiger’s No. 1 fan

Machel Hosang is from Port St. Lucie, and he proclaims himself Tiger Woods’ No. 1 fan.

# Woods

Continued from 63

On Sunday of THE PLAYERS, he was wearing a red shirt, with a picture of Woods shushing the crowd, and the words, “Look out Jack ... Greatest Golfer Ever” written above and below the image. From hole to hole, he carried a step stool, and subsequently stood upon it to ensure he had the greatest view of all.

“I’ve been following him for years,” said Hosang, who didn’t watch any golfer but Woods at THE PLAYERS. “This is the most excited I get about anything in life.”

The Port St. Lucie resident said he’s attended every golf tournament that Woods has ever played in Florida. From the Honda Classic to Bay Hill to the Valspar Championship and now THE PLAYERS Championship, he goes if Tiger goes. His reasoning? Simple.

“Tiger made golf cool,” he said. “The things he does, more than half of his competitors can’t even imagine what he just pulled off. Every facet of golf has changed because of him.”



Tiger Woods eyes up a shot at THE PLAYERS Championship.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

### A surprise gift to watch Tiger

Like Hosang, Michael Tatti didn’t watch anyone at THE PLAYERS but Woods either. However, he didn’t know he’d be

doing so until just recently.

The Long Island resident attended the tournament to watch Tiger live thanks to a surprise birthday gift from his girlfriend.

Tatti has always idolized Woods. At work, he’ll pull up vintage YouTube clips in his free time of the golfer winning tournaments in the late 1990s and early 2000s. He called him the “pinnacle of golf.”

“He was everything,” said Tatti. “He’s brought out the best of the players.”

What about Woods’ indiscretions and recent low points? The mass migration from hole to hole continues regardless.

“He’s a fallible human being,” said Tatti. “It brings him more back to earth.”

### Expecting the unexpected

Modusta Wallace traveled from his home of Washington, D.C., to watch Woods continue his comeback story at THE PLAYERS and see what magic he



Woods’ self-proclaimed No. 1 fan uses a step stool to watch the golf legend at THE PLAYERS Championship.

could pull off.

“I like a comeback story,” said Wallace. “I pull for someone who scraped the bottom of the barrel and is working his way back up.”

At the time of the Recorder’s conversation with Wallace, Woods was climbing up the leaderboard quickly on Sunday, and people were beginning to wonder if he would miraculously challenge Simpson. Wallace said that didn’t really matter, though; he would have watched Woods hole-by-hole even if he were at even, just because he produces results that others simply ... can’t.

“You expect the unexpected from him ... that’s Tiger,” said Wallace. “Everyone else hopes and prays for things. With Tiger, it’s expected.”

### A Jaguar follows a Tiger

All-Pro Jacksonville Jaguars defensive lineman Calais Campbell was also among the mob following Woods.

Following Tiger’s shot from No. 17 that landed in the water, he and a group of surrounding fans screamed, “DUUUU-VAAALLL!” Campbell said he had been following Woods all day.

“He brings out energy,” said Campbell. “He has an aura of greatness around him. It’s just cool to say you were there.”

Cool for Calais? No wonder it was cool for everyone else.

Based on Woods’ performance at THE PLAYERS, the Tiger Woods Effect is bound to continue to make its mark on golf courses and towns across the country.

Look out Shinnecock. You’re next.

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# Fred Funk partners with Jerome Bettis for Stryker campaign on joint health

By Jon Blauvelt

Fred Funk, a PGA Tour Champions golfer, the winner of THE PLAYERS Championship 2005 and a Ponte Vedra Beach resident, is partnering with Stryker and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerome Bettis to communicate the importance of joint health.

As part of Stryker's "Get on the Bus" contests, Funk is motivating Jacksonville residents with joint pain to take the first steps to a healthier lifestyle by sharing why they or their loved ones need extra encouragement to go to the doctor to learn about joint health. The grand prize winner of the contest in Jacksonville will receive the opportunity to get on board Stryker's first-ever bus and spend time with Funk. As part of the day, they'll catch a ride to and from their doctor's office to learn how the joint pain they are experiencing can have long-term impact on their health.

"It's kind of an exciting way to get

them thinking about it and then if they win the contest, they can really have a fun day with us," said Funk, who had his knee replaced in 2009. "For me, I had to get it done. I had to get my career back."

Through this initiative, Funk wants to help other people do the same. In addition to the Jacksonville contest, Funk said another is taking place in Pittsburgh, which will result in a similar experience with Bettis. A third contest is happening in New Jersey, where the winner will get to spend time with both Funk and Bettis.

With the all technology that's out there and with how well they're doing with joint replacements, they can get their life back and get out of that pain cycle," said Funk. "That's the No. 1 root of everything."

For more information about the contests and how to enter yourself or your loved one, visit [patients.stryker.com/get-on-the-bus-contest-2018](http://patients.stryker.com/get-on-the-bus-contest-2018).



Photo courtesy of Ketchum Sports & Entertainment

Fred Funk is partnering with Stryker and Jerome Bettis to communicate the importance of joint health through the "Get on the Bus" contests.



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# Scenes from tournament play at THE PLAYERS

Photos by Chris Norton



THE PLAYERS Championship trophy stands in the forefront of the TPC Clubhouse.



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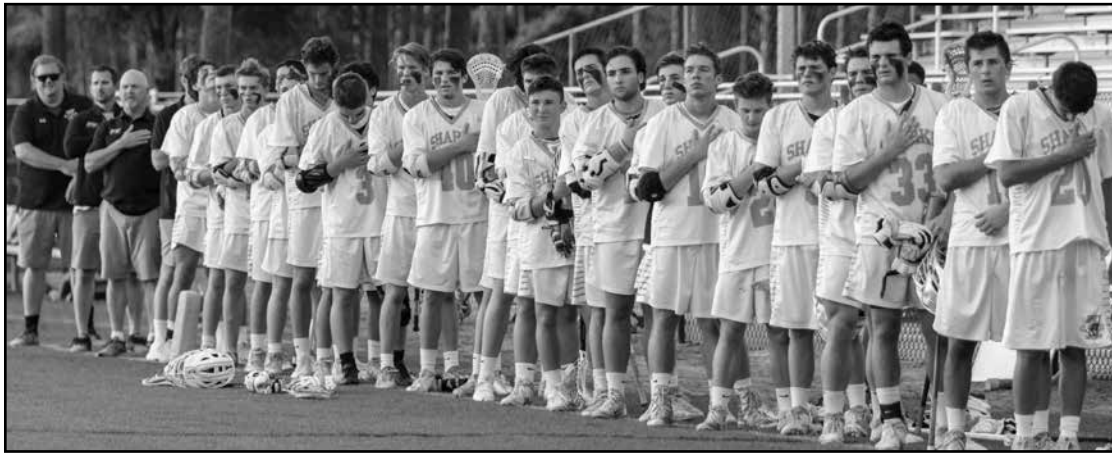
Bubba Watson



Ian Poulter



Matt Kuchar



# PONTE VEDRA FALLS TO BISHOP MOORE IN STATE FINAL FOUR

Ponte Vedra's boys lacrosse team lost to Bishop Moore in the state final four last Friday, May 11. Held in Boca Raton, the game finished with a final score of 8-6. The Sharks finished the season with a record of 17-6.

Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra lacrosse

# Tama Caldabaugh wins the PLGA Ladies Club Championship; Beatriz Coles wins President's Cup

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach Ladies Golf Association (PLGA) recently held its annual Club Championship and President's Cup tournaments, with 18-hole rounds played on Wednesday, May 2, and Thursday, May 3, to award low gross and low net prizes.

The 2018 PLGA Club Champion is Tama Caldabaugh, who posted a 149 to win this year's title. Caldabaugh scored five birdies during the tournament to earn the overall low-gross prize.

The winner of the 2018 PLGA Presi-

dent's Cup, with the lowest net score for the two rounds, was Beatriz Coles with a score of 143.

There were also two President's Cup flights. The low-net winners for Flight One were Beverly Gavant (147) in first place, Karen Benoit (151) in second place and Mary McCann and Sue Birk tied for third with a 152. The low-net winners for Flight Two were Mary Girasole (150) in first place, Fran Matthews (153) in second place and Diane Howard (157) in third place.



Photos courtesy of Marianne McNeely  
**Low-gross champion Tama Caldabaugh (left) stands with the PLGA President's Cup low-net winner Beatriz Coles.**



**The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach's PLGA President's Cup Flight Two winner Mary Girasole (left) stands with Flight One winner Beverly Gavant on Thursday, May 3.**

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# Sharks fall to Blue Devils in playoffs

Ponte Vedra's boys baseball team fell to Clay on Tuesday, May 15, in regional baseball playoff action at the Shark Tank.

Both teams scored twice in the second inning and were tied 2-2 after regulation. The Blue Devils took advantage of the Sharks' miscues, however, to score twice in the eighth inning for the win. The final score was 4-2. According to Maxpreps, the team finished the season 15-13.

Photos by Jerry and Chris Norton



Ponte Vedra's second baseman CJ Ferro fields the ball and feeds it to shortstop Jacob Young to start a double play to keep the Devils from scoring.

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Ponte Vedra pitcher Kevin Faulkner pitches against Clay, which ultimately resulted in a 4-2 loss for the Sharks.

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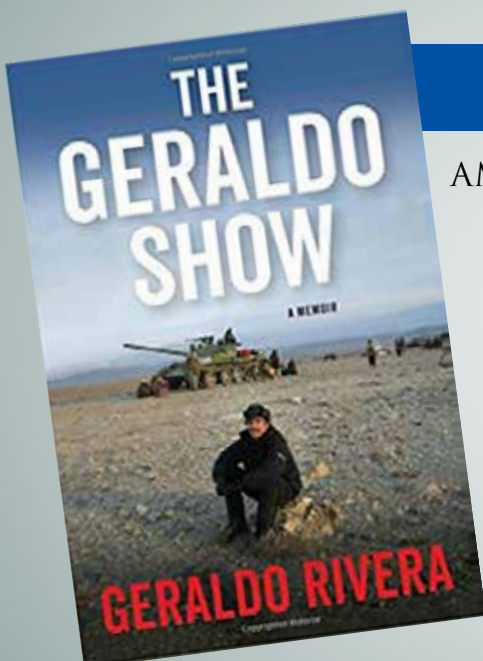
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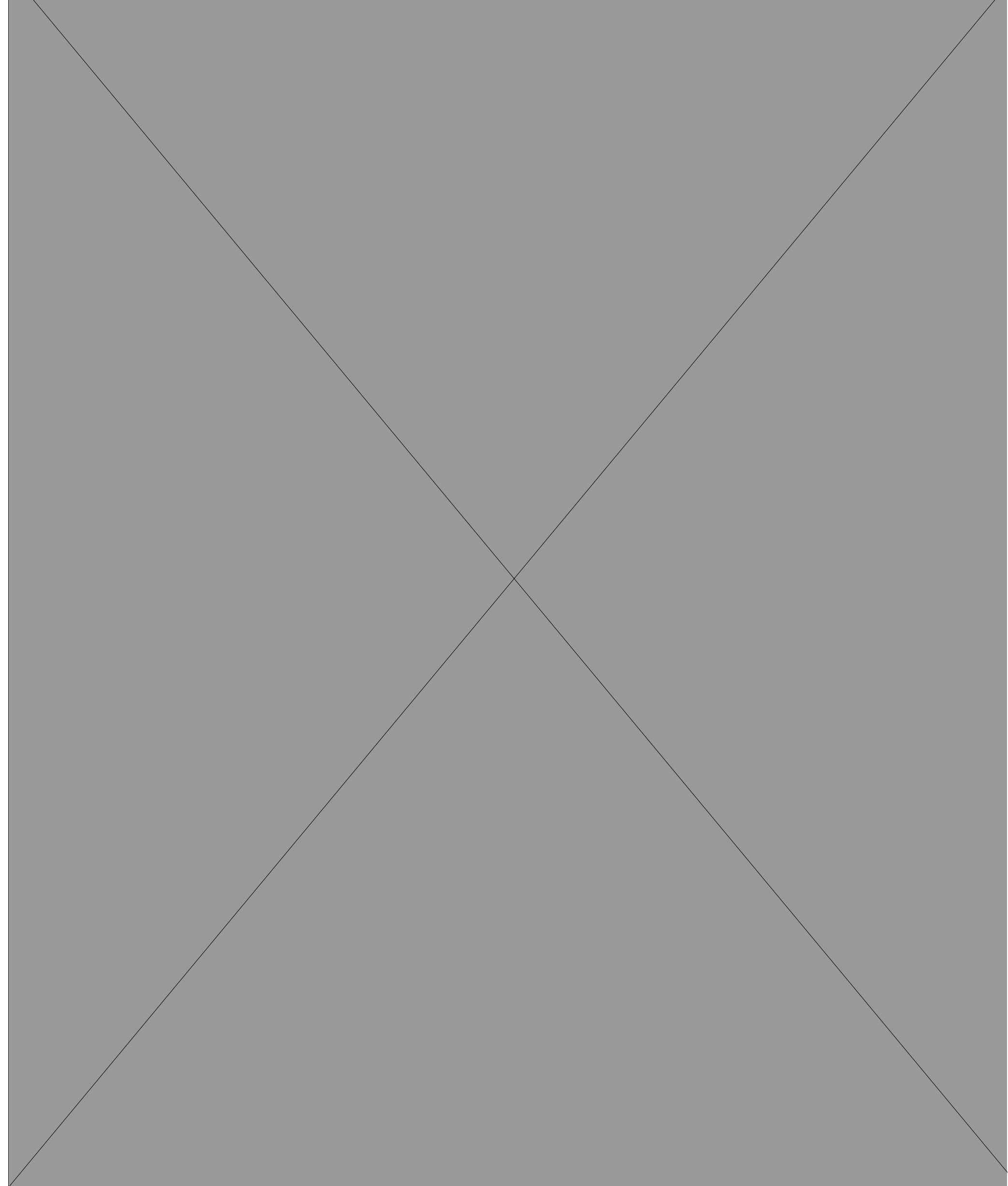
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Ponte Vedra's Jacob Young throws to first to get the Clay runner. Young made all three outs in the inning.



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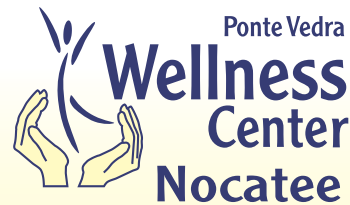
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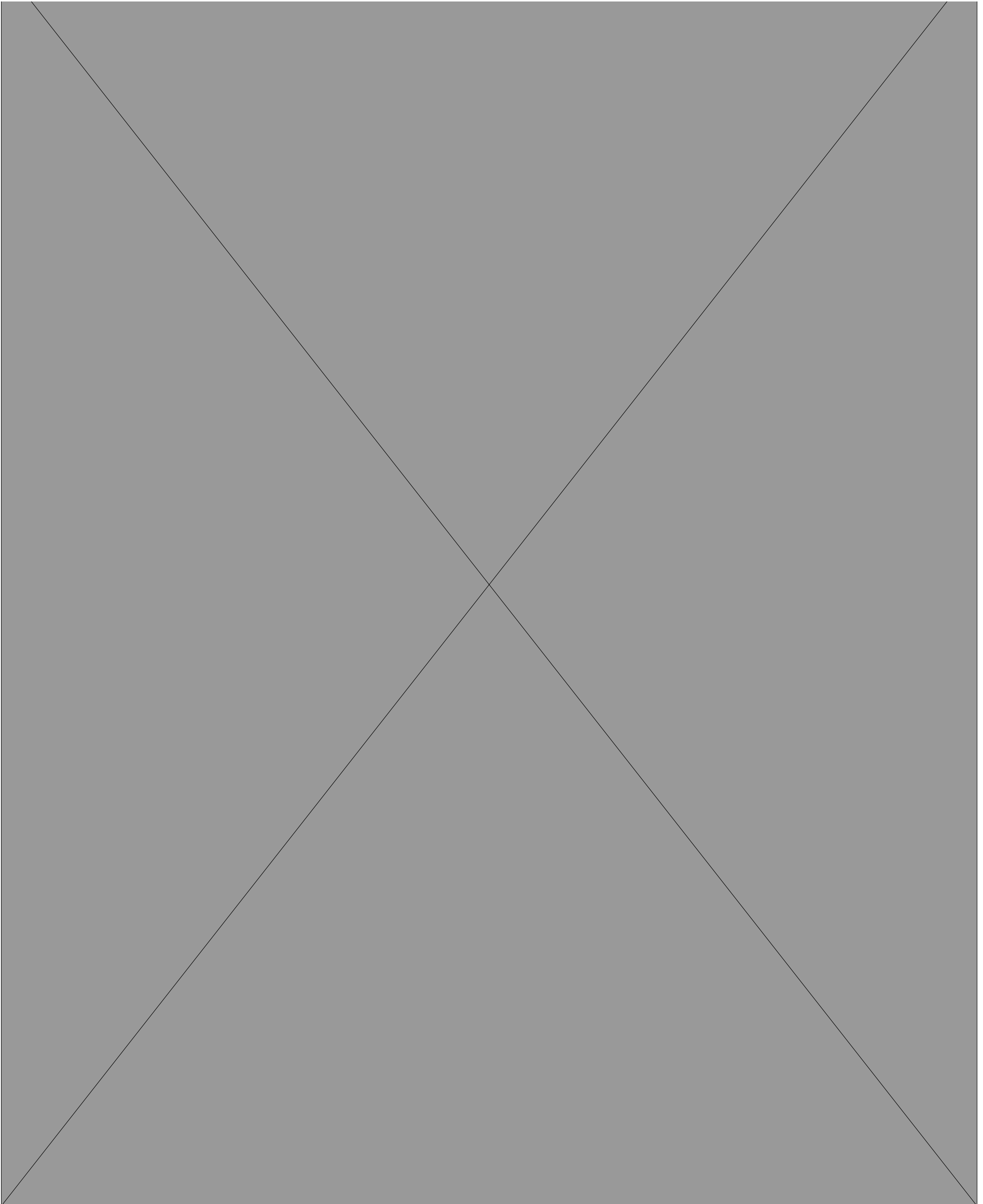
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