



Isabelle (Rodriguez) Renault President/CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

# **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO**

As the temperature rises, so does the excitement around the work being done to enhance the visitor experience here in Ponte Vedra Beach as a destination architect.

Our Product Development Working Group, which is comprised of 15 local tourism stakeholders and under the guidance of the Nichols Tourism Group, has started to identify tourism assets in the Ponte Vedra area to enhance.

Tourism assets that will be considered for enrichment will fall in four areas of focus: passive nature, outdoor recreation, art and heritage and wellness. It is an exciting time as we continue our journey in upgrading the visitor experience here in Ponte Vedra.

As we fulfill our responsibilities as a destination architect, we are also committed to our work in advocacy and are taking advantage of our ability to convene the public by inviting all candidates seeking to represent members of our community to participate in Politics in St. Johns. For nearly a decade, we have hosted candidate meet and greets so members of our community can enter their voting booths armed with knowledge and confidence, and we are doing so again this year.

This year for the first time since 2010, the ballot for the Ponte Vedra seat on the County Commission will not include Commissioner Jay Morris, who has decided not to run for reelection, and several candidates are vying for that seat.

Do not miss this opportunity to get the answers you seek. Politics in St. Johns in Ponte Vedra is on July 16 and it is free to attend. The event will be hosted at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will feature a straw poll so that you can cast a vote for whomever won your confidence during the evening. (More information about Politics in St. Johns can be found in the article also on this page.) I look forward to seeing you there!



Photo by Susan Griffin

Sam Ruiz (left) has returned to the Chamber of Commerce as the membership and events manager, replacing Debra Bulak (right), who vacated the position in a move toward retirement.

# Ruiz returns to Chamber as membership and events manager

A familiar face returned to the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recently as Sam Ruiz rejoined the organization as the membership and events manager, replacing Debra Bulak, who vacated the position in a move toward retirement.

"She is not retiring," Chamber President/CEO Isabelle Renault said, "but she wanted to slow her professional obligations, and she knows the level of commitment this position requires. So, she decided to enter a semi-retirement and step away from the Chamber. We are grateful for all of the work that she did and while we will miss her; I know, (Ruiz) will help us continue to move the Chamber forward."

Until 2017, Ruiz worked as the sales and marketing manager at the St. Johns County Chamber alongside Bulak for nearly three years. He also served in a similar capacity during the year he worked at the Ormond Beach Chamber of Commerce as the membership director.

"I'm excited to be back working in St. Johns County," Ruiz said. "This is a great community with great people and a great business climate, and I'm happy to be a part of that again."



## Politics in St. Johns to be held July 16 at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

On Monday, July 16, candidates for local, state and national public offices will meet with hundreds of residents during the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Politics in St. Johns event at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., this free event will feature candidates for state senator, state representative, county commission and candidates seeking election to the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, the governor's office and many others. As part of the event, all attendees will be able to support their favorite candidates by voting in a straw poll managed by Vicky Oakes and the office of the St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections.

"We are so proud to be able to bring these events every two years to the residents of St. Johns County," said Isabelle Renault, president and CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. "This event grows every election year and we want to encourage as many people as we can to join us to meet the candidates that they will be voting for in the upcoming elections."

According to Bob Porter, the Chamber's director of public policy, the straw poll results aren't necessarily reflective of what will happen when the official polls open at the end of August, but they do add excitement to the event and immediate feedback to participating candidates.

"The straw poll is less about who wins and more about encouraging and providing people incentive to be informed," he said. "I hope to see many people taking advantage of this opportunity that will help them make an informed decision when entering the voting booth."

On Aug. 1, beginning at 5 p.m., the Chamber will host a Politics in St. Johns Meet the Candidates event in St. Augustine at the Solomon Calhoun Center. The format will mirror the Ponte Vedra event. It will include a meet and greet with the candidates and their representatives and a straw poll.

To find out more about Politics in St. Johns, visit the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce website at www.sjcchamber.com and click on the Chamber calendar or call (904) 285-2004. If you are a candidate interested in participating, visit www.sjcchamber.com/pisj.



**Toni Boudreaux** Director PVB Division, St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

# **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

School's out for summer! This is the time of year that families hit the road for vacations, and there is no better place to visit than Ponte Vedra Beach.

This time of year, we start to see lots of new faces around our favorite restaurants and retail spots, reinforcing the simple fact that our county continues to be ranked No. 1 when considering vacation and leisure activities. To maintain the quality of life that we all continue to enjoy in our little piece of paradise, we must recognize our local businesses and individuals who go the extra mile to strengthen and advocate for the Chamber.

We do our part to spotlight these Chamber businesses with one of our signature events, our Annual Membership Appreciation Awards. The event is always fun, and we take the time to award outstanding members for their commitment to the Chamber. The awards ceremony this year was a "white party" held at the beautiful Sawgrass Beach Club, where we invited everyone to dress in their brightest whites while enjoying delicious food and cool refreshing beverages.

Please see page 23 for a full list of the award winners.

Don't forget to vote for your choice of candidates for the Chamber's five Council Boards and the Ponte Vedra Beach (PVB) Division Board members by June 30 at 5 p.m. In accordance with our bylaws, service on these boards is open exclusively to members in good standing with the St Johns County Chamber of Commerce. We want your participation in electing our Chamber leadership and appreciate you taking the time to cast your ballot. Lastly, mark your calendar for the 16th

annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show presented by Fields Auto Group on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nocatee Town Center. The Auto Show, which is open and free to spectators, will feature up to 175 classic and new collectors' cars all vying for the show's 30-plus trophies. The Ponte Vedra Auto Show is one of our most anticipated events of the year with over 3,500 attendees annually. Join us as we celebrate Best in Show 70th Anniversary of the Porsche 356, Best in Show 50th Anniversary of the Subaru, Best in Show 40th Anniversary of the Mazda RX-7 and Best in Show 60th Anniversary of the Austin-Healey. Also back by popular demand is a vintage motorcycle display that you don't want to miss! Rev up for what will be a great day of fantastic cars, food trucks and fun. I look forward to seeing you out and about this summer!

"To maintain the quality of life that we all continue to enjoy in our little piece of paradise, we must recognize our local businesses and individuals who go the extra mile to strengthen and advocate for the Chamber."

Toni Boudreaux, Director PVB Division of St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce



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Diamond (from left), Toni Boudreaux, Jen Hendrich, Rob Schlingmann, Gloria Dongara, Lori Adams, Susan Griffin, Nancy Hallett, Lucia Miller and **Tim Crosbv** gather at the **PVBD Board** of Directors meeting June 12 at Camp K9 in Nocatee.

Photo courtesy of K9s For Warriors staff



## Joshua Hull named Ambassador of the Quarter

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recently named Joshua Hull the Ponte Vedra Beach Division (PVBD) Ambassador of the Ouarter.

A native of Jacksonville, Hull currently works for VyStar Credit Union as the branch vice president of the Nocatee location and is about to celebrate his 12-year anniversary



with the company. Hull

holds his NMLS License to discuss mortgages and enjoys helping members with loans of all types, both consumer and business.

Hull is also an active member in the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra, as well as a member of Christ Church. He holds a bachelor's degree from Florida State College at Jacksonville in business management. In his free time, Hull enjoys his hobby as a gamer of many types, including board games, video games and more.

# PVBD Board of Directors meets at Camp K9 for monthly meeting

On June 12, the Board of Directors for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division (PVBD) of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce gathered for its monthly meeting at Camp K9, the Nocatee-based campus for local nonprofit organization K9s for Warriors. A few days before the board meeting on June 9, the PVBD Board worked together with the PVBD Ambassadors to provide the nonprofit's warriors with a meal.

## **UPCOMING SJC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PVBD EVENTS**

#### **JULY EVENTS:**

#### **Chamber Before Hours**

Date: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 Time: 8 to 9 a.m.

Location: Standfast Asset Management 100 Executive Way Suite 114, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Get to know a local businesses while networking with fellow Chamber members. This event provides a great way to start the work day with a little breakfast and conversation.

Sponsor: Standfast Asset Management

#### PVB Division Joint Luncheon with Jax Chamber Beaches Division

Date: Thursday, July 12, 2018 Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Location: Sawgrass Beach Club 9797 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: The St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division joins the JAX Chamber Beaches Division to honor local service members for their commitment to community service over and above their duties as active military personnel.

Sponsor: Fields Auto Group and Jacksonville Icemen

#### **Politics in St Johns**

Date: Monday, July 16, 2018 Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

1050 A1A N, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Politics in St. Johns is a candidate meet and greet

event hosted by the Chamber in both Ponte Vedra Beach and St. Augustine. The events feature candidates running for local, state and federal offices who represent St. Johns County. Each event will also feature a straw poll conducted by the Supervisor of Elections office. Results will be announced during the event.

#### **Chamber After Hours**

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Location: The Hammock at Twenty Mile 118 Oak Creek Drive, Ponte Vedra, FL, 32081 Info: Network among Chamber members and guests and enjoy beverages and bites provided by the host. Remember to bring your business cards. Sponsor: Synovus Mortgage Corp.

#### AUGUST EVENTS:

#### Chamber Before Hours Date: Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018 Time: 8 to 9 a.m. Location: The Ponte Vedra Recorder 1102 A1A N Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Get to know a local businesses while networking with fellow Chamber members. This event provides a great way to start the work day with a little breakfast and conversation. Sponsors: The Ponte Vedra Recorder, AAA The Auto Club Group

#### **Chamber at Noon**

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018 Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location: Sawgrass Country Club 10034 Golf Club Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Paxton Hare will discuss Facebook advertising. Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

#### **Chamber After Hours**

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018 Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Location: The Plantation at Ponte Vedra (Beach Club) 1111 Ponte Vedra Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Network among Chamber members and guests and enjoy beverages and bites provided by the host. Remember to bring your business cards.

Sponsor: The Plantation at Ponte Vedra

#### **SEPTEMBER EVENTS:**

#### 2018 Ponte Vedra Auto Show

Date: Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018 Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Location: Nocatee 245 Nocatee Center Way, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081 Website: www.pvautoshow.com

#### **Chamber Before Hours**

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018 Time: 8 to 9 a.m. Location: Ponte Vedra Beach Division Office 200 Solana Road, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Get to know a local businesses while networking with fellow Chamber members. This event provides a great way to start the work day with a little breakfast and conversation.

**Sponsor:** Sarah Alexander – Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services Florida Network Realty

#### **Chamber at Noon**

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018 Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: TBD Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

#### **Chamber After Hours**

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018 Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Location: Ponte Vedra Eye Associates 150 Professional Dr, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 Info: Network among Chamber members and guests and enjoy beverages and bites provided by the host. Remember to bring your business cards. Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Eye Associates

For more information and to register, visit www.sjcchamber.com.

## COMING UP ...

The remainder of Connections will look back on Ponte Vedra Beach Division events that have taken place since February.

From "Before Hours" and "After Hours" events to "Chamber at Noon" luncheons, the Recorder will help Chamber members and friends alike reminisce about what has been a busy and exciting last four months. This section also includes summaries of special Chamber events, including the Politics in St. Johns Legislative Update in March, the two most recent Economic Development Council (EDC) Breakfasts, the PVBD Member Appreciation Awards in May and a handful of ribbon cutting ceremonies. Enjoy the ride!



ABOVE: Starling at Nocatee Executive Director Megan Kennedy addresses the event attendees at the Chamber "After Hours" event on Feb. 28.

RIGHT Gloria Dongara, Toni Boudreaux and Kari Zerrahn pose for a photo at the Chamber "After Hours" event held at Starling at Nocatee.

Photos by Susan Griffin



# Starling at Nocatee hosts Chamber 'After Hours'

Starling at Nocatee hosted an "After Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 28. The event provided attendees the opportunity to network after work and enjoy food and drinks.

Located at 999 Crosswater Parkway in Ponte Vedra, Starling at Nocatee is a senior living community offering concierge living, assisted living and memory care.



Joshua Hull and David Naples

# Allstate hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

Allstate hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on March 7. The event provided local business professionals the chance to network with each other and enjoy breakfast before work.

Allstate is located at 258 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.





ABOVE: Isabelle Renault and Dr. Erika Hamer

LEFT: Tom DeStella, Larrs Anderson, Toni Boudreaux, Kari Zerrahn, Kathleen Anderson and John Anderson gather at the Chamber "Before Hours" event on March 7 at Allstate.

# Commissioner Dean addresses beach renourishment, tourism at Chamber luncheon

District 5 County Commissioner and Commission Chair Henry Dean discussed the importance of beach renourishment and its potential impact on tourism at a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division luncheon March 14 at Ruth's Chris Steak House.

At the "Chamber at Noon" event, Dean suggested the county should increase its tourist development tax (also known as the bed tax) by a penny to help fund a renourishment project. Dean's address also included discussion on smart growth and proposed impact fees for business/residential areas.



Photos by Benjamin Naim ABOVE: Commissioner Henry Dean addresses St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce members at a March 14 luncheon.

**RIGHT: Carol Maurer and Ellis McDonald** 





ABOVE: Henry Dean, Wiam Battah, Toni Boudreaux, Brandon Starks, Isabelle Renault and Bob Porter

Photo by Susan Griffin

LEFT: Lacey Croy, Steve Dennison and Patti Mena

Photo by Benjamin Naim

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Politics in St. Johns is a large political gathering hosted by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. It is designed as a fun educational evening aimed at connecting candidates running for office with members of the business community. The event will feature the candidates, candidate informational booths, candidate introductions, and a straw poll vote conducted by St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes (with the release of results to the local news media). The event is open to all Chamber members, guests and members of the general public free of charge.

CANDIDATES WISHING TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD VISIT www.SJCChamber.com/pisj FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

# Officials share accomplishments, insight at Chamber breakfast

Safety and security, the economy and hurricane recovery were among the topics discussed by officials at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Politics in St. Johns Legislative Update on March 23.

Congressman John Rutherford, state Sen. Travis Hutson, state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, state Rep. Paul Renner and St. Johns County Commission Chair Henry Dean addressed these issues, and several others, with business leaders from across the county at the event held at the Renaissance in World Golf Village. The update served as an opportunity for attendees to hear from state officials after the Florida Legislature recently adjourned for the year.





RIGHT: Anna DeCerchio, Chad Kunde and Samantha Story







ABOVE: County Commissioner Henry Dean, state Rep. Paul Renner, state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, state Sen. Travis Hutson and Congressman John Rutherford gather after addressing Chamber of Commerce members March 23 at the Renaissance in World Golf Village.

LEFT: Jeremiah Blocker, Lisa McGowan and Gina Mangus

Photos by Jon Blauvelt



State Rep. Paul Renner addresses the crowd.



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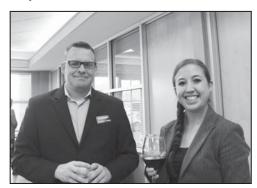
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# BBVA Compass Bank celebrates enhanced services with ribbon cutting

BBVA Compass Bank in Ponte Vedra Beach celebrated its recently enhanced services with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 21, which was attended by representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

In addition to the ribbon cutting, attendees of the event enjoyed networking, door prizes, beverages and hors d'oeuvres at a Chamber "After Hours" event. BBVA Compass is located at 155 Corridor Road.



Jonathan Stahle and Brittany Honeycutt



The BBVA Compass team joins representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 21 to celebrate the bank's recently enhanced services.



ABOVE: Toni Boudreaux, Dr. Casey Means, Marissa Daniels, Ponte Vedra Wellness Owner Dr. Erika Hamer, Jackie Payne, Daniel Brauch and Vickie Meads gather at the Chamber "Before Hours" on April 4.

RIGHT: Dr. Hamer addresses those in attendance of the "Before Hours" event.

Photos by Susan Griffin



# Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on April 4. The event served as an opportunity for attendees to network, enjoy coffee and a healthy breakfast and get a relaxing chair massage before heading to work. Ponte Vedra Wellness Center has locations in Ponte Vedra Beach and Nocateee.



Attendees of the "Before Hours" event enjoy interacting with the staff from Ponte Vedra Wellness Center.

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

Tim Crosby, the strategic partnerships manager for K9s For Warriors, discussed the organization's future and planned growth at a joint luncheon for members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division and JAX Chamber of Commerce Beaches Division on April 12 at Sawgrass Country Club.

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





ABOVE: Cindy Bishop and John Miller

RIGHT: George McCaughan and Caroline Jones

Photos by

Benjamin Nain





ABOVE: Tim Crosby, strategic partnerships manager for K9s For Warriors, discusses the nonprofit at the Chamber joint luncheon April 12 at Sawgrass Country Club.

LEFT: Greg Wells, Felicia Cox, Tim Crosby, Isabelle Renault, Garry Redig, Toni Boudreaux, Brian Zehren, Brandon Starks and Christine Wier gather at the Chamber Iuncheon.



## 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 April 30.

The event included other local businesses such as Julie Ryan Photography and Frenchy's Wellness Spa, which 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 for more information.

ABOVE: 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.

RIGHT: A celebratory cake helped attendees enjoy the event.







Melissa Millon and Lauren Honrath of Frenchy's Wellness Spa



Melissa Rowe, Nancy Hallett and Ellen Taylor



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Isabelle Renault, Victor J. Raymos, Mark Lesswing, Melissa Glasgow, Rob Matthews and Karen Everett gather at the EDC Quarterly Breakfast April 27 at the Renaissance World Golf

## EDC Quarterly Breakfast features address on cybersecurity

On April 27 at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted an Economic Development Council (EDC) Quarterly Breakfast that focused on cy-

Mark Lesswing, the chief technology officer and senior vice president of the National Association of Realtors (NAR), served as the keynote speaker, discussing why businesses need to be concerned about data driven cyber viruses as major business threats.

For three years prior to joining NAR, Lesswing was involved in corporate turnarounds. He is a speaker at major trade conferences and is listed in the international Who's Who of Information Technology and the National Register of Who's Who in Executives and Professionals.

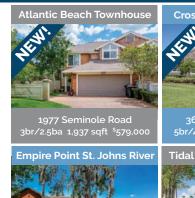
The sponsors of this EDC Quarterly Breakfast included the St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of Realtors, Matthews Design Group, PuroClean and North Avenue Capital.

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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 hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony April 27 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, Nu-Moon is a specialized medical practice that focuses on the natural healing properties 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



w.NuMoonPRP.com

diseased tissues. Photos by Susan Griffin

NuMoon Regenerative Medicine focuses on the natural healing

properties of patients' own blood. called platelet rich

plasma (PRP), to help promote heal-

ing of injured or



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Tanner and Dr. Marisol Moon with daughter Ava

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# Chamber holds annual joint 'After Hours' event at THE PLAYERS Championship

Approximately 700 business and community leaders celebrated the start of THE PLAYERS Championship festivities at the Chamber of Commerce's After Hours at THE PLAYERS reception on May 3.

The annual joint event organized by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce allowed attendees to network and enjoy food and refreshments from Sawgrass Events, Anthony's Gourmet Catering, III Forks Steakhouse, Mocha Misk'i, Monroe's Smokehouse Bar-B-Q & Catering, Seasons 52 and Peterbrooke Chocolatier.



Diane Motes, Samantha Solan, Sandy Ford and Josh Hull



ABOVE: Kim and Andy Scott and Dick Williams

RIGHT Jennifer Belisario and Cameron Fischer

> Photos by Susan Griffin





ABOVE: Sam Ruiz and Greg Voss

LEFT: Samantha Palmer and Len and Sonya Cutter

# Chamber's Ponte Vedra Beach Division presents Membership Appreciation Awards



Toni Boudreaux with award winners John Anderson, Karsten Jacobson, Wendy Ranson, Kathleen Floryan, Gloria Dongara, Arthur Wildblood and Jennifer O'Neal.



**Christine Ondek and Gloria Dongara** 



Mark Berman and Janet Collins



Greg Voss, Toni Boudreaux and David Godwin



Hannah Berman, Ellen Taylor and Lucia Miller

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce held its annual Membership Appreciation Awards May 30 at the Sawgrass Beach Club. The "White Party"-themed event featured the following awards and recipients:

The **Crushing It Award** is given to the member who utilizes his/her membership and has worked to grow his/her business: Jennifer O'Neal with MosquitoNix.

The **Going the Distance Award** is given to the member who has attended numerous events in BOTH the St. Augustine and Ponte Vedra areas: Art Wildblood.

The **Key Contributor Award** is given to the member who has stepped up at the last minute on numerous occasions to assist and promote Chamber events and initiatives: John Anderson, Allstate.

The **Rookie of the Year Award** is given to the member who shows great initiative in promoting and networking his/her business: Karsten Jacobson, Edward Jones.

The **Dedicated Service Award** is given to the member who never says no and can be consistently depended on for sponsorship of Chamber events: Ruth's Chris Steak House.

The **Spotlight Award** is given to the business that is strongly connected to the division's initiatives, events and members: Fields Auto Group.

Our **Board Member of Year** was Gloria Dongara, AAA Insurance Agency. Gloria is the first to lend a hand and help in a variety of situations whether it's out and about or during board meetings.

The Jeff Jenkins Community Service Award is given to a member who goes above and beyond in his/ her service to the community. The recipient of this award believes in corporate citizenship, not just because it is the right thing to do, but because it positively impacts the performance of their employees, and in the long-term, enhances the economic fabric of our community: PIVOT CPAs.

The Pat Morgan Outstanding Member Award is given to the member who goes above and beyond in his/her commitment to expanding and improving the division: Kathleen Floryan.

In addition to the awards presentation, guests of the event enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, beverages and live music. Sponsors of the event included Sawgrass Country Club, Jack Wilson, Pivot CPAs, The Morgan Company Promotional Advertising, Clean Getaway Car Wash and Fidelity Bank.

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Representatives from the Ponte Vedra Family YMCA and St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division gather during the Chamber "Before Hours" event on May 16 at the YMCA.

# Ponte Vedra Family YMCA hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

The Ponte Vedra Family YMCA hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on May 16. The event served as an opportunity for attendees to network and enjoy breakfast before heading to work.



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Guests at the "After Hours" event at Freedom Boat Club in St. Augustine enjoy a boat ride to end the day.





Gerri Garcia and Lori Brandel

Kathy Catron and Jennifer O'Neal





# Freedom Boat Club hosts Chamber 'After Hours' event



Lori Adams and Brittany Honeycutt

Freedom Boat Club hosted an "After Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on April 18.

Held at the business' Camachee Cove location in St. Augustine, the event allowed guests to take boat rides, network, enjoy snacks and beverages and check out the newly redesigned location.

Freedom Boat Club also has locations at Julington Creek Marina in Jacksonville, and in Jacksonville Beach.



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ABOVE: Isabelle Renault, Rob Schlingmann, Dr. Tony Parker, Toni Boudreaux, Brian Zehren and Brittany Wynne gather after the "Chamber at Noon" event on May 23.

RIGHT: World Golf Hall of Fame Historian Dr. Tony Parker addresses the event attendees.

Photos by Susan Griffin



# Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosts golf historian for 'Chamber at Noon' event

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted World Golf Hall of Fame Historian Dr. Tony Parker for the organization's monthly "Chamber at Noon" event on May 23.



Held at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, Parker discussed the history of golf and the efforts of the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Fields Auto Group served as the sponsor of the event.



Dick Williams and Toni Boudreaux

Felicia Cox and Sandra Ingram

# Chamber hosts Golf Classic and Seasonal Blend

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce held its annual Golf Classic June 7 at Slammer & Squire Golf Course in St. Augustine.

The Classic featured course games such as hole in one, closest to the pin and longest drive. The team from Ponte Vedra Wellness Center took home first-place honors based on gross results. Pop-A-Lock was recognized as the best dressed golfers in attendance.

Immediately following the Classic, the Chamber hosted its Seasonal Blend networking event, at which attendees enjoyed food and drink, the opportunity to win raffles and door prizes and the Chamber Classic awards presentation.

Sponsors of the events included CenterState, Jack Wilson Family of Dealerships, Bojangles', TIAA Bank and the Ponte Vedra Recorder.



Sam Ruiz addresses attendees of the Seasonal Blend.



The team from Pop-A-Lock is recognized as best dressed at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Golf Classic and Seasonal Blend on June 7.



The team from Ponte Vedra Wellness Center receives first-place honors based on gross results of the Classic.



**Kip Friedman and Cindy Bishop** 



Sponsors of the event included The Ponte Vedra Recorder and Bojangles' among others.



Lori Adams and Malcom Anthony

RIGHT: Toni Boudreaux, Catherine Tatem, Jen nifer Sartiano, Donna Guzzo, Sara Bass and Mary Bonatakis at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach Chamber "Before Hours" event on June 6

BELOW: Mark Ryan and Nicole Wolf

> Photos by Susan Griffin



## Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosted a Chamber "Before Hours" event June 6. Attendees of the event enjoyed the opportunity to network and eat breakfast before work. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way.









ABOVE: Kheshini Perera and Kari Zerrahn

LEFT: Cultural Center Development Director Jennifer Sartiano addresses attendees of the "Before Hours" event.

ba

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## Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosts Sandler Training president for 'Chamber at Noon'

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted Pat McManamon, president of Sandler Training, for the organization's "Chamber at Noon" event on June 13 at the TPC Clubhouse.

McManamon discussed the merits, challenges and purpose of networking while providing tips and techniques to get the most of your time when meeting potential clients.

Sandler Training is a sales management development firm and Jacksonville affiliate of the internationally recognized Sandler Training. For more information, visit www.solutions.sandler.com.

Karen Everett and Toni Boudreaux announce winners of the door prizes. Photos by





Jim Moyers, Jennifer Belisario, Toni Boudreaux, Pat McManamon and Brandon Starks gather at the "Chamber at Noon" event on June 13 at the TPC Clubhouse.



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#### Photos by Susan Griffin



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Photo by Susan Griffin

Titanium Yoga owner Ashley Hanna (center) participates in a ribbon-cutting ceremony with representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on May 29 to celebrate the opening of her business on Solana Road.

### Titanium Yoga celebrates opening, Chamber membership with ribbon cutting

Titanium Yoga, a new infrared heat yoga studio located at 111 Solana Road, Suite A in Ponte Vedra Beach, celebrated its business opening May 29 with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and JAX Chamber. The event also celebrated the business' new membership in both chambers. Titanium Yoga was founded by Ashley Hanna, who used hot yoga to recover from a near fatal car accident. For more information, visit Titanium Yoga's website at titaniumyoga.com.





Mike Davis, Mary O'Brien, Mark Lamping and Isabelle Renault gather at the EDC Quarterly Breakfast June 22 at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort.

# Chamber hosts Jaguars President/CEO for EDC Quarterly Breakfast

On June 22, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted Jacksonville Jaguars President and CEO Mark Lamping as the keynote speaker for its EDC Quarterly Breakfast at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort.

Lamping has led the Jaguars' business operations since joining the team in 2012. An executive in professional sports for over 20 years, Lamping became the Jaguars' first president since the end of the 1996 season. His career highlights include 13 years as a marketing executive with Anheuser-Busch, 14 seasons as president of Major League Baseball's St. Louis Cardinals and four years as CEO of New Meadowlands Stadium Company, where he oversaw the construction and operation of MetLife Stadium.

The New York Giants' 2012 Super Bowl victory enabled Lamping to become one of the few sports executives to have received both a Super Bowl ring and World Series Championship ring. Lamping earned his World Series ring as president of the St. Louis Cardinals following their 2006 championship season.

The sponsors of this EDC Quarterly Breakfast included St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of Realtors, FPL, Matthews Design Group, North Avenue Capital and PuroClean.

# SVR Realty celebrates new location with open house and ribbon cutting

Also on June 22, SVR Realty, LLC hosted an open house at its new location at Summer House in Ponte Vedra Beach that included a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

The event featured food, drinks and live music, and allowed attendees to learn more about SVR Realty's offerings.

Patrick Venzke, the manager of the company's Ponte Vedra Beach office, was the first German national to play in the NFL, spending time with both the Jacksonville Jaguars and Indianapolis Colts.

RIGHT: Cackylacky's serves up burgers and more at the SVR Realty open house and ribbon cutting.

BELOW: Robbie Litt provides live entertainment at the event. AWARD - WINNING ANGUS BURGERS actus







ABOVE: Representatives from SVR Realty, LLC and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce celebrate the company's new Ponte Vedra Beach location at Summer House with a ribboncutting ceremony.

LEFT: Jennifer Price and Scott Grant

Photos by Susan Griffin



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