

Ponte Vedra Recorder



July 26, 2018
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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com

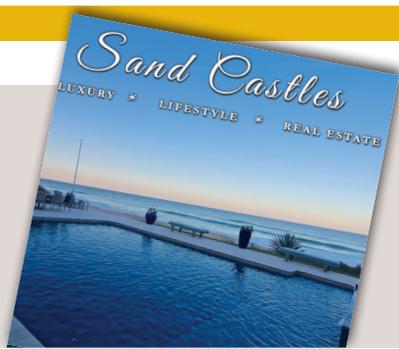
CRYSTAL CLEAR



Beachwalk celebrated the completion of its Crystal Lagoon this week. **Read page 40 for more.**

Photo by James Brown, Jr.

Sand Castles
Pages 13-36



Storm Readiness
Pages 37-39
Business Weekly
Pages 40-41



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One of Us

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In the Arts

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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 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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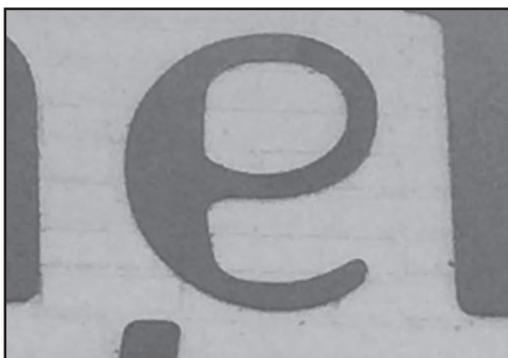
PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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1	3	2	6	4	9	7	8	5				

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to 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.

Six readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Caffe Andiamo sign. The winner of the random drawing was **Christian Winkler**. Congratulations, Christian — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT(S) OF THE WEEK

Several stray kittens are now at the St. Johns County Pet Center looking for new homes. As they are strays, some traits are unknown at this time. Come visit them today!



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Articus, and I am a 2-year-old dog who was brought to the pet center as a stray. There may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #43496



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**.



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Night at the Zoo

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Beach Living at its Best!

The WaterMark is a luxury, 11-story 25 unit oceanfront condominium in Jacksonville Beach. The WaterMark offers spacious oceanfront terraces, secured lobby, two parking levels and private storage units. Completed in March 2005, this gated property includes private beach access, an ocean-side pool with a heated spa and secured, covered, ground-floor parking. **\$659,000**



Stunning Riverfront Estate

You will instantly feel as though you have been swept away to a chateau in Normandy, France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204 square foot tudor-style home is truly a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining. Designed with the materials and attention to detail expected with this architecture, this 4 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath home will not disappoint. **\$7,800,000**



A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity!

Build your custom dream home in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach with ocean access across the street. This enclave of 23 estate-sized home sites on Ponte Vedra Boulevard is surrounded by majestic Live Oaks with pristine preserve and lake views. Ponte Vedra Boulevard Living from **\$1.4M**



Rare Waterfront Opportunity on Roscoe

3 purchasing options: Combine lots to create One of the last opportunities to have 150' frontage on the Intracoastal! **\$1,399,000.** Or this beautiful 150 x 400 lot can be divided into 2 -75' lots. **\$699,000 each.**



Why I Serve

The Ponte Vedra Recorder is excited to bring you Why I Serve, a video series featuring Wounded Warrior Project that highlights local veterans and active service members, revealing why they decided to serve and what the experience provided them.

Watch the series on the Ponte Vedra Recorder website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.

Future sponsorship opportunities are available for Why I Serve, as well as for similar video series; any interested parties should contact Ben@OPCFLA.com for more information.

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COLLECTION



TURTLE SHORES
\$434,900

Great opportunity to live in a gated resort-like community, a short walk to the beach through the turtle tunnel! Home features a new roof, updated ceilings, new carpet & flooring, crown molding, gas fireplace, fresh paint, & new A/C. MLS 900665

Novelyn Jean Shepherd | 904.945.4935
NShepherd@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



NORTHGATE
\$490,000

Charming pool home situated on a corner lot on Lake Lynn in the much sought after Enclave of Northgate. Features hardy board & cedar exterior, & a screened lanai with pool plus sitting/dining area. MLS 921385

Steve Falor | 904.252.2284
SteveFalor@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PONTE VEDRA BEACH
\$560,000

Enjoy beach living in this fabulous 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo! Relax on your patio & watch the sunrise & sunset. Features granite counters, tile floors, plantation shutters, newer carpet, & marble wood-burning fireplace. MLS 925735

Linda Ostoski | 904.473.1515
LindaOstoski@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



VILANO BEACH
\$715,000

Excellent opportunity to build in Vilano on the west side of Coastal Highway! Property is located on the north corner of Sherwood Ave. with 125' fronting Coastal Hwy & zoned CHT. MLS 923769

Kay Kennedy | 904.631.4184
KayKennedy@WatsonRealtyCorp.com
George Lewis | 904.910.1766
GeorgeLewis@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



NORTH COVE
\$899,000

Private 1.86-acre oasis with long-range water & golf views on the Players Club Valley Course. Split floor plan with 4 bedrooms, paver driveway, engineered hickory hardwood flooring, quartz countertops, new appliances, updated lighting, & more! MLS 943503

Diana Kelly | 904.465.2784
DianaKelly@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



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County approves initial funding for Ponte Vedra Beach restoration

By Samantha Logue

For months, supporters of the Save Ponte Vedra Beach initiative have been petitioning St. Johns County for financial assistance toward their mission of local beach restoration. Last Tuesday, July 17 at a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, their wish was officially granted.

With a 3-2 majority vote, the commissioners approved up to \$200,000 in immediate funding for the project, which will allow the county's preferred engineering firm — Taylor Engineering — to begin the necessary preliminary work.

"We are thrilled that the county will be hiring a coastal engineer to restore the beach and that they are putting in some initial funding for it," said Lori Moffett, spokesperson for Save Ponte Vedra Beach Inc. "It took a massive effort on the part of hundreds of people in St. Johns County that love Mickler's Beach and all points north and south. The county's largest public beach in terms of public access and parking spots is in desperate need of investment, and the people of St. Johns County have strongly voiced their support for it."

The motion was backed by Commis-



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

Coastal erosion in Ponte Vedra Beach has prompted the St. Johns County Commission to approve financial assistance for local beach restoration. With a 3-2 majority vote, the commissioners on Tuesday, July 17 approved up to \$200,000 in immediate funding for such efforts.

sion Chair Henry Dean, who expressed confidence that the funding, which will be drawn from the Beach Renourishment Reserves, would eventually be repaid.

"It appears to me there is an overwhelming majority of homeowners in this specific Ponte Vedra Beach area that will

vote in favor of an MSTU," Dean said. "So, I am fully confident in my own mind that this \$200,000 will be repaid from the first year's funds of that MSTU."

Although Commissioners Jeb Smith and Jimmy Johns were skeptical regarding costs and feasibility, Commissioners

Paul Waldron and Jay Morris also voted to approve the initial funding for the project, which the county estimates will ultimately cost about \$634,000.

"Ponte Vedra is as important to St. Johns County as South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beach," Morris noted, adding, "Of everybody I've talked to in Ponte Vedra, I haven't had one person indicate they were not for some type of MSTU, so that money, in my opinion, will get paid back."

While residents in North Ponte Vedra Beach are still awaiting the county's decision regarding the creation of a special assessment to pay for local beach renourishment, the commissioners signed off on a municipal service taxing unit for a one-time dune restoration project in South Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach last December. Another agenda item of last week's meeting, the board voted not only to continue that assessment, but to combine the overall project with a federal beach restoration project — which will be conducted in that area by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — and reduce the tentative millage rate from 8.25 to 4 mills.

"Combining the two projects, constructability-wise and financially, makes

BEACH continues on **Page 7**

Florida DEP reaches agreement with Ponte Vedra Beach landowners over beach scraping violations

By Benjamin Naim

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently reached an agreement with four Ponte Vedra Boulevard residents, including the CEOs of United Airlines and Web.com, to resolve allegations against them for illegally excavating beach sand on their properties.

Following an investigation, DEP official Dee Ann Miller said the department determined the residents violated DEP guidelines regarding sand scraping activity. Miller noted in an email to the Recorder that the department addressed the allegations by negotiating short-form consent orders with the residents. A consent order, Miller said, is a legally enforceable agreement for violations that warrant a formal enforcement action.

According to documents obtained by the Recorder, Catherine Munoz — the wife of United Airlines CEO Oscar Munoz — offered to resolve the situation by offering a \$24,000 voluntary contribution to the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund, and to reimburse the department's costs. The document

also stated that her offer was not an admission of any liability for the property owner's alleged violations.

"The department takes instances of non-compliance seriously and we will hold offenders accountable if violations are found," Miller said. "DEP has a number of enforcement tools we are able to use to address violations. While fines and penalties are one enforcement tool, enforcement can also be requiring necessary restoration and/or remediation actions through a compliance assistance offer, consent order or other enforcement mechanism. The nature of the violation and circumstances surrounding the event are used in the determination of which one is best suited."

In addition to Oscar and Catherine Munoz, Web.com CEO David Brown and Margaret Conolly will each pay \$24,000 to resolve the situation. The other property owner, Christopher Aitken, will pay \$33,000. According to the DEP documents, each resident stated that their monetary offer did not constitute an admission by the property owner of liability for the DEP violations.



Photo courtesy of the Florida DEP Public Online Database

A Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) photo shows the impacts of noncompliant sand scraping on the beach off Ponte Vedra Boulevard. Four Ponte Vedra Boulevard residents responsible for the scraping recently reached an agreement with the DEP to resolve the situation.

Dick Williams pledges not to use 'dark money' political committees in commission race

Dick Williams, a longtime St. Johns County resident and candidate for the St. Johns County Commission District 4 seat, has pledged not to use "dark money" political committees to conduct campaign activities on his behalf.

"'Dark money' has made its way into politics, and the way it is used is one of the main reasons why voters have such a low opinion of public service and politics," Williams said. "There is no place



Dick Williams

for 'dark money' in St. Johns County local campaigns, and I pledge never to use political committees to fund my campaign activities."

"Dark money" refers to political spending used to influence elections, where the source of the money is not disclosed, and

it is usually spent by a political committee or a super political action committee. Williams is asking his fellow candidates to also make a stand against "dark money."

"I hope my fellow candidates will follow my lead, and we together can tell all St. Johns County voters that we share their values and will not follow the example set by career politicians, special interest lobbyists and lawyers that have

corrupted our political system," Williams added.

A Republican candidate for the St. Johns County Commission District 4, Williams is committed to promoting policies that maintain quality of life, protect tax dollars and grow the economy. He is the only candidate in the race that has been endorsed by St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar. For more information, visit Williams4Commission.com.

Rutherford receives SIA Legislator of the Year Award

Congressman honored for work on school safety bill

Rep. John Rutherford (R-Fla.) recently received the 2018 SIA (Security Industry Association) Legislator of the Year Award for his work sponsoring H.R. 4909, the STOP School Violence Act of 2018, which was signed into law in March as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018.

The SIA Legislator of the Year Award is presented once a year to a member of Congress or other elected official who has demonstrated leadership in promoting and ensuring public safety. Rutherford was one of five 2018 recipients.

"I am honored to receive the SIA Legislator of the Year Award," Rutherford said. "It is important that we work together to equip our schools with the latest technology and train our students, teachers and administrators on how to identify signs of violence, so that we prevent violent acts before they happen. I am thankful for the hard work of groups like SIA and



Photo courtesy of Emerson George

Congressman John Rutherford (right) receives the SIA Legislator of the Year Award for his work on the STOP School Violence Act following the Parkland shooting.

Sandy Hook Promise, who worked side-by-side with us to make this bill a reality."

The STOP School Violence Act reauthorizes and amends the 2001 Secure Our Schools program through the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice

RUTHERFORD continues on **Page 7**

Ponte Vedra family returns from vacation to burglarized home

By Samantha Logue

A burglarized home is the last thing anyone wishes or expects to return to after a relaxing vacation, but for one Ponte Vedra family, that was the case Saturday, July 14.

According to the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, Irina Pacilio and her family left for vacation Wednesday, July 11, only to return three days later to find their home, located in the Florentine community off U.S. 1, ransacked and their black, 2005 Chevrolet Silverado missing from the driveway.

In addition to the truck, other items reported stolen included three laptops, two Microsoft Xbox consoles, Beats by Dre headphones, five iPhones, two iPads, a cell phone charger, one set of speakers, a Gucci suit case, Gucci sandals, four flat screen TVs, a Monster gaming headset, five pairs of True Religion jeans, two designer purses and assorted jewelry. A spare set of keys to the stolen truck was also reported missing.

According to the incident reports, the burglars appeared to have broken in through a window, leaving behind a few fingerprints and a blood sample, which deputies collected from the scene.

Although a person of interest has been identified, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office confirmed that no arrests have been made in relation to this incident. Those who may have helpful information are encouraged to contact the sheriff's office at (904) 824-8304.

KITTY SWITKES NAMED PVCA'S 2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR

Ponte Vedra Community Association (PVCA) President Jane Rollinson presents Kitty Switkes with the 2018 Person of the Year award at the organization's annual meeting. The PVCA recognizes a citizen each year with the award for his/her positive impact on the community. According to Rollinson, Switkes received the award for her "tireless years protecting Ponte Vedra's Plan Development Code and assuring we remain the quaint beachside community that we all love." In addition, Rollinson said the award recognizes Switkes' service on the Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board of Trustees.

Photo courtesy of Jane Rollinson



Bicyclist dies after collision on A1A

A bicyclist died on Saturday, July 21 after she was struck by a vehicle on A1A near Guana River Road, according to Florida Highway Patrol.

Jacksonville resident Jennifer C. Bryant, 41, was traveling north in the bicycle lane at approximately 8:30 a.m. when she made a left turn into the path of a Toyota RAV4 also traveling north. Linda Yerrill, the 75-year-old driver of the vehicle and a St. Augustine resident, could not avoid the collision.

The front of the Toyota struck Bryant, who was separated from the bicycle before coming to a rest in the southbound shoulder. According to Florida Highway Patrol, she was wearing a helmet.

Elizabeth Hudgins is a longtime resident of Ponte Vedra and realtor for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty.

Elizabeth Hudgins

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I've been a resident of the Jacksonville area for over 45 years. I didn't become a full time real estate agent, however, until 1990. Prior to that, I graduated from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics. When it comes to real estate, I specialize in waterfront and country club properties in all areas across the First Coast. Repeat clients and their referrals are the cornerstone of my business.

You're ranked nationally in the top two percent of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' affiliated offices. What's your secret?

This isn't really a secret but living in Jacksonville for so long has given me extensive knowledge of the area and a large sphere of influence. Also, I always try to answer on the first ring, and if I miss a call, I call people back. It's a simple way to make people feel important. Also, if you want to be successful in real estate, know that it takes patience and persistence.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is the exclusive broker for the new Ponte Vedra Beach community EvenTide. What makes this community so unique?

It's located within the Municipal Service District (MSD) of Ponte Vedra, right off of Ponte Vedra Boulevard and across the street from the ocean with private beach access. EvenTide is a rare opportunity to build your dream home in a new 23-home community east of A1A.

What do buyers find most exciting about EvenTide?

The location is the primary draw. Buyers are excited to be east of A1A at this price point, along with beach private access. On top of that, Ponte Vedra has the best school systems in all of Florida, pristine beaches and a vibrant community.

How would you characterize today's real estate market in Ponte Vedra and Jacksonville as a whole?

Ponte Vedra's market is consistently active because of its desirable location and the St. Johns County school system, and it remains one of the most affluent areas in Northeast Florida. With Mayo Clinic located nearby, the community has an influx of physicians and their families moving here.

Now when it comes to Jacksonville as a whole, it is important to recognize that the city's real estate market is made up of several smaller markets. But overall, Jacksonville is active with new companies arriving and other companies expanding. The city has people relocating to it frequently. Additionally, Jacksonville offers desirable tax benefits and the quintessential Florida lifestyle that so many are after.

After living in the Jacksonville area for 45 years, what do you think are the biggest changes that have taken place here?

Ponte Vedra has experienced tremendous change during that time. I moved here over 30 years ago, when the average resident age was 65. Now with more and more families making this their permanent residence, the average age is 50. I've watched the community develop with the building of our top-rated school system, and the placement of the PGA Tour worldwide headquarters. Truly, the whole personality of the community has changed.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

What do you enjoy most about living and working in Ponte Vedra?

I enjoy the fact that 98 percent of the oceanfront homes here are single family properties rather than resorts. I think that keeps Ponte Vedra feeling like a community. The majority of people that you see walk-

ing down the street are residents, not tourists. On top of that, Ponte Vedra offers you the relaxing environment of a small town, with the advantage of having beautiful beaches and easy access to big city amenities like our NFL team and the symphony.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

To watch a video portion of the interview, visit pontevedrarecorder.com and click One of Us.

Beach

Continued from 4

the most sense, if there's an ability to do that," said Jason Harrah, project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers'

Jacksonville District. "It's sometimes \$5 to \$7 million just to get that dredge to the site, so instead of you doing a project and having to pay to mobilize a dredge, and us doing a project and having to mobilize a dredge, it makes perfect sense for us to try to combine those and pay that fee once."

In a 4-1 vote, the board ultimately decided to move forward with that plan, with the commission chair leaving no doubt as to his position on the issue of beach restoration in St. Johns County.

"I, as one commissioner, can tell you that what I am irrevocably committed to

is fixing our north beaches, from Vilano up to J. Turner Butler," Dean said. "And as long as that takes, I think that we, as a commission, are going to continue to work with the local community and the state and local governments to get that done."

Rutherford

Continued from 5

Assistance. The legislation authorizes \$50 million annually in grants for state and local schools to fund training and other security initiatives and improvements.

"As a 41-year veteran of law enforcement and sheriff of Jacksonville for 12 years, I know firsthand that school security requires a multi-layered approach," Rutherford said. "That is why I was proud to introduce the STOP School Violence Act, to prevent more tragedies like we have witnessed in Parkland, Florida, and across the country.

"As I used to say during my time in law enforcement, I don't want to be the best first responder to a mass-casualty event; I want to prevent that horrible act before it ever occurs," he added. "I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in Congress to give our states, localities and tribes the resources and training they need to stop violent events before they occur and keep our schools and our communities safe."

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Chic Coastal Contemporary

Shows like a model & better than new! Breathtaking 4BR, 3.5 BA, Bonus Room & Study. Wide-plank tile flooring, white kitchen with quartz counters, designer lighting, fenced yard. Coastal Oaks at Nocatee 66 Bonita Vista Dr. \$625,000



Waterfront in Harbour Island

Mediterranean villa with 6,786 sf built like a fortress on a gorgeous bulkheaded lake. 6 BRs, 9 full & 2 half BAs, study, media & game rooms. 3 staircases + elevator, screened patio, pool & spa. 60 ft. dock in yacht basin. 117 Newport Ln \$2,900,000



North Island at Marsh Landing

Meticulously maintained 6BR, 6BA & study pool home. Gourmet granite & gas kitchen, butler pantry w/2nd Bosch dishwasher, wine room & walk-in bar, huge family room views pool & acres of pristine marsh. 4-car garage. 370 Royal Tern Rd S \$1,545,000



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Sawmill Lakes
\$599,000

Gorgeous 4BR/4BR plus office pool home with lakeside setting in back and preserve in front. Single level w/bonus room floor plan, wood floors and high ceilings. Kitchen with ss appliances and granite counters opens to family room with walls of windows to enjoy the water views. Large screened lanai overlooks the sparkling pool. MLS 934470



Seawind - Jax Beach
\$595,000

Enjoy the salt life from this 3BR/2BA 6th floor oceanfront condo with large balcony capitalizing on the endless beach views. Beautifully updated with tile flooring, Plantation shutters and spacious kitchen with plenty of cabinetry. Owner's suite with wonderfully designed bathroom and balcony access. Views from every room. MLS 922234



Old Ponte Vedra Beach
\$650,000

OPEN HOUSE at 29 Waterbridge Place, Sunday, July 29th, 1-4pm. Wonderful opportunity in Old Ponte Vedra within walking distance to the beach. Immaculate, single level home on private lot with high ceilings, Plantation shutters and fireplaces in both living & master bedrooms. Spacious kitchen, formal dining room, sun room & den. MLS 948122



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



Old Ponte Vedra Beach
\$1,895,000

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Thursday, July 26	Friday, July 27	Saturday, July 28	Sunday, July 29
<p>Figure-drawing class with William McMahan Local artist William McMahan will host a figure drawing class with a live model July 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. This workshop is designed to benefit people with little drawing experience, as well as experienced draftspersons. All needed materials will be provided. For more information, call (904) 899-6023. Admission costs \$30 for museum members and \$40 for non-members; registration is required. This event is for adults only. The Cummer Museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Women in the Bible Learn about key women in the Old and New Testaments at this July Bible study series at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. This weekly, one-hour discussion led by Pastor Hinkley or guest leaders, will take place Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Following a brief presentation, guests will participate in a lively discussion on various women in the Bible and refreshments will be served. Lord of Life Lutheran Church is located at 276 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.lordoflifepvb.org.</p> <p>Library computer class Join the Hastings Branch Library July 26 at 10 a.m. for this computer class offering one-on-one assistance with downloadable media, email, the Internet, online applications and basic technology. This event will take place at 6195 S. Main St. in Hastings.</p> <p>Jacksonville Job Fair The Jacksonville Job Fair will offer a chance to meet hiring managers from top companies in Jacksonville, get connections and find a dream job. The event will take place July 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center by Wyndham, located at 3131 Hartley Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Pre-K storytime class Children Pre-K ready (roughly age 3) and older and their caregivers are invited for a pre-k storytime class July 26 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Library, located at 101 Library Blvd. The class will feature stories, singing, shaky egg dancing and more.</p>	<p>Music in the Courtyard The general public is invited to enjoy live music every Friday and Saturday night from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Courtyard, located at 200 1st St. in Neptune Beach. Guests are encouraged to listen to local music while sipping on a coffee or glass of wine.</p> <p>Little ones class Join the Anastasia Island Branch July 27 at 10:15 a.m. for a Spanish/English storytime event featuring rhymes, stories, music and more. All are welcome. The Anastasia Island Branch is located at 124 Seagrove Main St. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p>Sunset and Full Moon paddle Anastasia Watersports will host a Sunset and Full Moon paddle event July 27 at Anastasia State Park, located at 850 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine. Multiple watercraft options will be available including single kayaks, tandem kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. Private boats will be welcome at a lower rate. For more information, call (904) 460-9111 or email info@anastasiawatersports.com.</p> <p>Financial Fridays Join the River House on the final Friday of the month to discuss financial issues impacting senior citizens. This event will assist seniors by offering knowledge, tips and expertise on numerous financial situations. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a spot for the next session, scheduled for July 27 at 10 a.m. Representatives from VyStar will be on hand to discuss financial fraud. The River House is located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>'Heathers the Musical' at the Limelight Theatre "Heathers the Musical," a homicidal new comedy, will be performed July 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Limelight Theatre. Tickets cost \$26 for general admission, \$24 for seniors and \$20 for students and military. This production features heavy adult content, including language, violence and explicit behavior. Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave. in St. Augustine. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p>	<p>St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market will take place every Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The market features more than 100 tents with local produce, flowers, baked goods, handmade arts and crafts and more. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market is located at 1340 A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Music in the Park Anastasia State Park will host THOSE GUYS FLORIDA July 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. The classic rock band has performed nationwide for 25 years. Food and beverages will be available for purchase at Island Beach Grill. Anastasia State Park is located at 300 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Paul Reiser at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall will host Paul Reiser July 28; gates open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Reiser is a comedian, actor, television writer, author and musician who has spent the last 30 years acting in Oscar and Emmy award-winning movies and TV shows. He was once voted as one of Comedy Central's "Top 100 Comedians of All Time." The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N.</p> <p>'Mission: Impossible - Fallout' at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame Ethan Hunt and his IMF team, along with some familiar allies, race against time after a mission gone wrong. This film is showing July 28 at the World Golf Hall of Fame. Visit www.worldgolfimax.com for showtimes and to purchase tickets. The World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Family seining event Join the GTM Research Reserve July 28 from 9 to 11 a.m. to learn how to pull a seine net. Participants will collect fish and crabs and learn about their habitats and role in the environment. The program will take place at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. Call (904) 823-4500 or visit www.gtmnerr.org for more information.</p>	<p>Sandals, Shorts and Steel Drum Service Every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church invites guests to put on sandals and shorts for a more casual worship service featuring the tropical sound of steel drum music. The church is located at 465 11th Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Cannon firing demonstration at Castillo de San Marcos National Park Service volunteers and personnel demonstrate a cannon firing at the Castillo de San Marcos museum/monument every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Rangers and volunteers demonstrate the weapons and relate the experiences of the colonial Spanish soldier of 1740s St. Augustine. Firing times are subject to change depending on weather conditions and staff availability. Castillo de San Marcos is located at 1 S. Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.</p> <p>'Urban Spaces, Open Skies' exhibition The newest exhibition at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, entitled "Urban Spaces, Open Skies: 20th-Century American Landscape," will be on display from July 27 through Feb. 3, 2019. Drawn from the Cummer Museum's extensive collection of works on paper, this presentation will feature more than 30 prints celebrating modern cities and the timeless charms of the country. Visitors can admire how artists have captured the changing landscape of cities like Chicago and New York. For more information, contact Amber Sesnick at (904) 899-6034 or asesnick@cummermuseum.org.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club luau Join the First Coast Card Club for a Hawaiian Island Luau July 29 at 4 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to bring a hot dish, salad, dessert and beverages. Card playing will begin at 5 p.m. Contact the club at (904) 829-0643 for venue information and to reserve a spot.</p>

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Monday, July 30	Tuesday, July 31	Wednesday, Aug. 1	Thursday, Aug. 2
<p>MOSH Mondays 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 www.themosh.org for more information.</p> <p>Gypsy Skirt Dancing class Join the Council on Aging for its signature Gypsy Skirt Dancing class at the River House on Mondays from 10 to 11 a.m. The class features props such as fans, umbrellas and more. Loaner skirts will be available. Each session costs \$4 for River House members and \$5 for non-members. Call (904) 209-3655 to make a reservation. The River house is located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>'Quilt Extravaganza' exhibition This exhibition, entitled "Quilt Extravaganza," is located at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. It features work by Jacque Huber. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way. Admission to the museum is free and the center is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p>Food for Life: Diabetes Initiative Explore how nutritional choices can increase or decrease the risk of Type-2 diabetes July 30 at 6:30 p.m. Learn which foods are high in fiber, low in glycemic index and more at this Food for Life: Diabetes Initiative event. Participants will learn several delicious, easy-to-prepare recipes to help keep a steady blood sugar and maintain a healthy weight. This event will take place at the UNF Adam W. Herbert University Center, located at 12000 Alumni Drive in Jacksonville. For more information on the cost of admission and more, call (904) 620-4200 or email unfce@unf.edu.</p>	<p>Prenatal Yoga Join the Y Healthy Living Center, located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach, for a prenatal yoga session July 31 at 6 p.m. Prenatal and postnatal yoga provides safe, simple and effective exercises designed to help women cope with the changing needs of their body before and after pregnancy and birth.</p> <p>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Cafe every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Cafe patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully-inspired tapas for sale at the Cafe. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit www.cummermuseum.org. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Day retreat program This program, which is offered Monday through Friday at Arbor Terrace, 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. For more information, call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichment-group@yahoo.com. Arbor Terrace is located at 5125 Palm Valley Road in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>Ladies Bunco Night The ladies of Nocatee and their guests are invited for a ladies Bunco Night featuring fun and games July 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. No experience is necessary to participate. Visitors are encouraged to meet neighbors, learn a new game and enjoy \$3 and \$10 glasses of wine available for purchase. RSVP at fun@nocatee.com. This event will take place at Crosswater Hall at Nocatee, located at 245 Nocatee Center Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Yoga on the beach 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. This event will take place at 978 A1A Beach Blvd.</p>	<p>Toastmasters Club 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 lucyreep@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Wednesday Market at St. Augustine Beach 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 to 80 vendors can be found at the market selling locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared foods, arts, crafts and more. Visit www.sabca.org for more information.</p> <p>Music by the Sea concert This free weekly concert series at the St. Johns County Pier features a wide variety of musical genres. On Aug. 1, Amy Alesia & Soul Opera-tion will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to bring a beach chair or blanket along with a favorite beverage. This event will take place at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p>The Copper Tones at 1904 Music Hall The Copper Tones will perform Aug. 1 at 8 p.m. at 1904 Music Hall. The band produces a twist of soul, rock americana and more. For more information, visit www.thecoppertonesmusic.com. 1904 Music Hall is located at 19 Ocean St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>'Jacksonville: A Tale of My City' opening Join the Jacksonville Downtown Public Library for the opening celebration of "Jacksonville: A Tale of My City," an exhibition that inspires viewers to explore relationships between community, identity and neighborhoods. This event will take place Aug. 1 at 303 N. Laura St. in Jacksonville from 5 to 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Summer education conference RSVP of St. Johns County and the St. Johns County School District will be hosting a summer education conference for volunteers Aug. 2 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at The Webster School, located at 420 N. Orange St. in St. Augustine. Experts in the areas of mentoring, tutoring and school readiness will be sharing strategies with volunteers who are currently serving and those who are interested in volunteering. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Freeman at Cheryl.Freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us or call (904) 547-3952.</p> <p>Family Bingo Bring the kids out for a night of family fun at the new Family Bingo Night, set for Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. This family-friendly event will feature bingo and a variety of other board games. Additionally, the Splash Bar and Rocky's will be open. Email fun@nocatee.com to RSVP. This event will take place at Splash Waterpark, located at 245 Nocatee Center Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class Aug. 2 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 www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Throwback Thursday: 'Babes in Arms' at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe A group of vaudevillians struggling to compete with talkies hits the road hoping for a comeback. This film will be shown Aug. 2 at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe at noon as part of the theater's "Throwback Thursday" event. The cinema is located at 36 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to ben@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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SJC supervisor of elections addresses safety, security of voting process at Rotary meeting

By Jon Blauvelt

Amid national concerns over the safety and security of elections in the United States, St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes said her office is taking every possible measure to protect the local voting process.

“I have 100 percent confidence in our voting system,” Oakes told the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Thursday, July 19 at Marsh Landing Country Club. “The highest priority for me as an election administrator is the safety and security of our elections.”

Oakes first explained that the county’s voting system is not on the internet and is instead hosted on a closed server in her office that programs and tabulates the election. Separately, she said her office uses a communications server for precincts when they close on election night to send the results via a private network. The election administrator also noted that significant testing takes place at her office to ensure voting equipment counts accurately before it is used in an election.

Among other safety and security measures, Oakes said an audit is completed



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes addresses the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach July 19.

following elections to ensure every vote has been counted and accounted for. Also after elections, she said her office draws random races and counts the votes to verify that total against the tabulated total.

In addition, Oakes noted the supervisor of elections office keeps ballots for two years following elections should any issues

arise. The election administrator also said Florida’s paper ballot process is one of the safest systems in the country.

Moving forward, Oakes said her office recently received funds from the state to continue to harden its systems, including upgrading systems and adding a layer of security. She noted that her office now has

a 24/7 monitoring system that tracks all traffic.

“Is our system perfect?” Oakes asked. “No. But I’ll tell you, over 30 years, it’s better than it’s ever been.”

The St. Johns County supervisor of elections additionally discussed changing trends in elections. She said in the 2016 general election, 72 percent of voters in St. Johns County cast their ballots prior to the election. More specifically, Oakes noted that 52 percent voted early, and 20 percent voted by mail. In addition, she mentioned that voters can now register to vote online, which is a new feature in Florida as of October 2017.

Oakes reminded the Rotarians that the primary election is taking place Aug. 28. The last day to register to vote or make a party change is July 30, and early voting starts Aug. 18.

In a separate communication to media, Oakes also said it’s not too late to request a mail ballot for the primary. To do so, residents can visit the elections office website at www.votesjc.com and use the online form to request the ballot. Or residents can call the elections office at (904) 823-2238. The deadline for requesting the ballot for the primary is Aug. 22 at 5 p.m.

Lifelong Republican Erika Alba reminds voters you can still register to vote thru July 30th 2018. Absentee voting begins next week. Early voting begins August 18th and Primary Election day is August 28th.



Please let your voice be heard. I ask for your vote! Thank you!

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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

OBITUARIES

Odette Birgbauer

Odette L. Birgbauer, 99, died July 10, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

Francis Gray

Francis Alden Gray, 83, died July 13, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

Helen Likins

Helen Jean Likins, 89, of Jacksonville, died July 16, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

James Stuart

James Ronald Stuart, 75, died July 17, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.



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Vicky Oakes
St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections

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Nocatee Farmers Market features classic cars and oldies

Held Saturday, July 21, the Nocatee Farmers Market featured a “Nifty 50s” theme this month.

The event included live oldies music from Shades of Gray, dance performances and a classic car showcase provided by S&L Classics.

The next farmers market is scheduled for Aug. 18. The theme will be “Sounds of Summer,” featuring performances by local group The Robbie Litt Band. Per the usual, the market will include over 70 local vendors offering items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, delicious unique foods, crafts, jewelry and more.

Visit www.nocatee.com for more information.



Photos by Susan Griffin

A group of classic cars were prominently displayed at the Nocatee Farmers Market July 21, which featured a “Nifty 50s” theme.



Shades of Gray performs at the market.



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Lakeside Professional Offices under construction in Nocatee

Silverfield Group and Morales Group recently announced the construction of their second office development in Nocatee, Lakeside Professional Offices, which will include four single story buildings totaling approximately 34,000 square feet.

The first building, slated to total 8,531 square feet, is scheduled to be completed by March 2019. The development will be included in Nocatee Town Center.

“Nocatee has experienced significant

retail growth over the past few years, but the office sector remains underserved particularly for service providers such as physicians and financial services,” said Karl Hanson of Silverfield Group. “Lakeside Professional Offices is designed to tailor to the needs of those businesses.”

For more information on business and office opportunities at Lakeside Professional Offices at Nocatee, visit www.info.nocatee.com/office-space.

Dostie Homes to build properties at Crosswater at Nocatee

Dostie Homes will join CalAtlantic Homes, David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes and Riverside Homes as home builders in Crosswater at Nocatee — the community's newest collection of neighborhoods.

A Jacksonville-based builder, Dostie Homes offers new floorplans starting in the \$400s. To preview the upcoming

model home, visit www.nocatee.com/floorplan/anastasia/heritage-trace.

Crosswater neighborhoods include a wide variety of homesites, including easy-to-maintain smaller lots to larger lots for growing families. Homes range from 1,300 to 3,200 square feet. For more information on the community, visit www.nocatee.com/crosswater-neighborhoods.



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JULY 26, 2018 - SPECIAL SECTION

- A SUMMER DAY IN ROME
- PREPARING YOUR POOL FOR A HURRICANE
- LETTUCE DO DINNER

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Recorder

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Welcome to the summer issue of Sand Castles



Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

By Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Summertime means many things to each of us. Our summer bliss happens through our travels, time with friends and family, long walks on the beach and celebrations such as the Fourth of July, which for many marks the beginning of summer.

June, July and August also represent some of the busiest times for real estate. According to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, the right time to list your home is during the summer. The company notes 43 percent of homes listed in the summer are off the market within 30 days. In addition, over 40 million Americans move annually, and over half of those people move during the summer months. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices adds that summer moves eliminate disruptions for families with children, and warmer days enhance curb appeal with more green on the lawn and in your pocket.

Featured in this issue, nine realtors showcase their listings and sales on our

First Coast. From Beachwalk to the Atlantic Ocean and Palencia to the Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, the unique lifestyle we offer is a compelling reason to call our First Coast home. Miles of beautiful sandy beaches from Atlantic Beach to St. Augustine welcome visitors to our historic coast, which is also Florida's best kept secret!

If you must leave our little piece of paradise, what better country to visit than Italy. In this issue, Francesca Rutherford shares her visit to her homeland with tales of her adventures. Born and raised in Rome and now a U.S. citizen, she and her family returned to her homeland for their summer vacation.

Also in this issue, local chef Alice Hickox and owner of Lettuce do Dinner writes about her personal journey that led to her passion in the culinary arts. Chef Alice shares her Summertime Mason Jar Salad recipe with us that sounds delicious!

Our summer bliss always includes a great book to read. Author and journalist Geraldo Rivera visited Ponte Vedra in June to discuss his latest work, "The

Geraldo Show: A Memoir." My husband Dale and I hosted Rivera in our home for a book signing to a very receptive audience! In addition to photos from the event, this issue features a book review about the memoir written by Jesse Hagy, an incoming freshman at Bates College.

Since we're in the middle of hurricane season, Judson Clarkson with Pools by Clarkson also shares a few tips on how to prepare your home for a hurricane. Let's hope we don't have to use his advice this year, but it is always better to be prepared!

Our home is our castle and at the Beaches it is our castle in the sand. From palm trees to sand dunes, golf courses and resort living, Jacksonville, Ponte Vedra Beach and the Beaches communities offer the most desirable real estate in Northeast Florida.

Janet Westling, REALTOR, GRI, CIPS
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Award-winning section
www.janetwestling.com

MARKET WATCH

How do I prepare to buy a home?

By Eric Spottswood
Prosperity Home Mortgage

This is a two-part article on how to best prepare for the lending process. The first part appeared in the previous edition of Sand Castles in May.

In the last edition of Sand Castles, I started to discuss what can be done to decrease stress when setting up a mortgage and buying a home.

I advised buyers to learn what goes into a lending transaction — including credit, income, collateral and assets — and why each item is so important. In this issue, I'm going to discuss a few other factors to consider, such as timing, market challenges and the professionals you should choose to work with during the mortgage process.

Start your process as early as possible

When it comes to financing, there is no time like the present! Especially with low inventory and a competitive housing market, you can't begin preparing too soon.

Many customers want to shop first, see if there are any homes listed for sale they like and then set up financing. But trying to buy a home in this order can add stress. Many sellers will not consider purchase offers from buyers who are not pre-approved by a lender, and the would-be buyers might lose a house they love.

The best practice is to contact a lender first to discuss your financing options, make sure you're qualified to shop in the range you desire and work on obtaining a pre-approval letter. Some lenders even



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

offer the ability to clear conditions while you're waiting to shop.

Prosperity Home Mortgage has a process called Buyers Advantage that works with customers to complete most of the financing process before they even begin shopping. This not only front-loads the effort on the loan to make the process less stressful throughout, but it also improves the strength of your offer to home sellers. So, start early and put yourself in a position to win the deal!

Protect yourself against market challenges

It's no secret — interest rates have been on the rise in recent years.

A look at recent history shows the average rate of a conventional 30-year fixed rate loan has gone from 4.22 percent one year ago to 4.72 percent today, accord-

ing to Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey. Since rates are rising and housing markets are becoming more competitive, protecting yourself against that movement is paramount. At Prosperity Home Mortgage, we offer the Lock, Shop & Home program. This is a free, 90-day rate lock that allows customers to shop while they look for a home.

Rising interest rates might not just affect your out-of-pocket expenses during the life of the loan; they might also impact your ability to be approved for the loan amount you want. Protecting yourself against interest rate fluctuations may give you the time you need to shop for the home of your dreams.

Work with professionals who are trustworthy and accessible

With the amount of information avail-

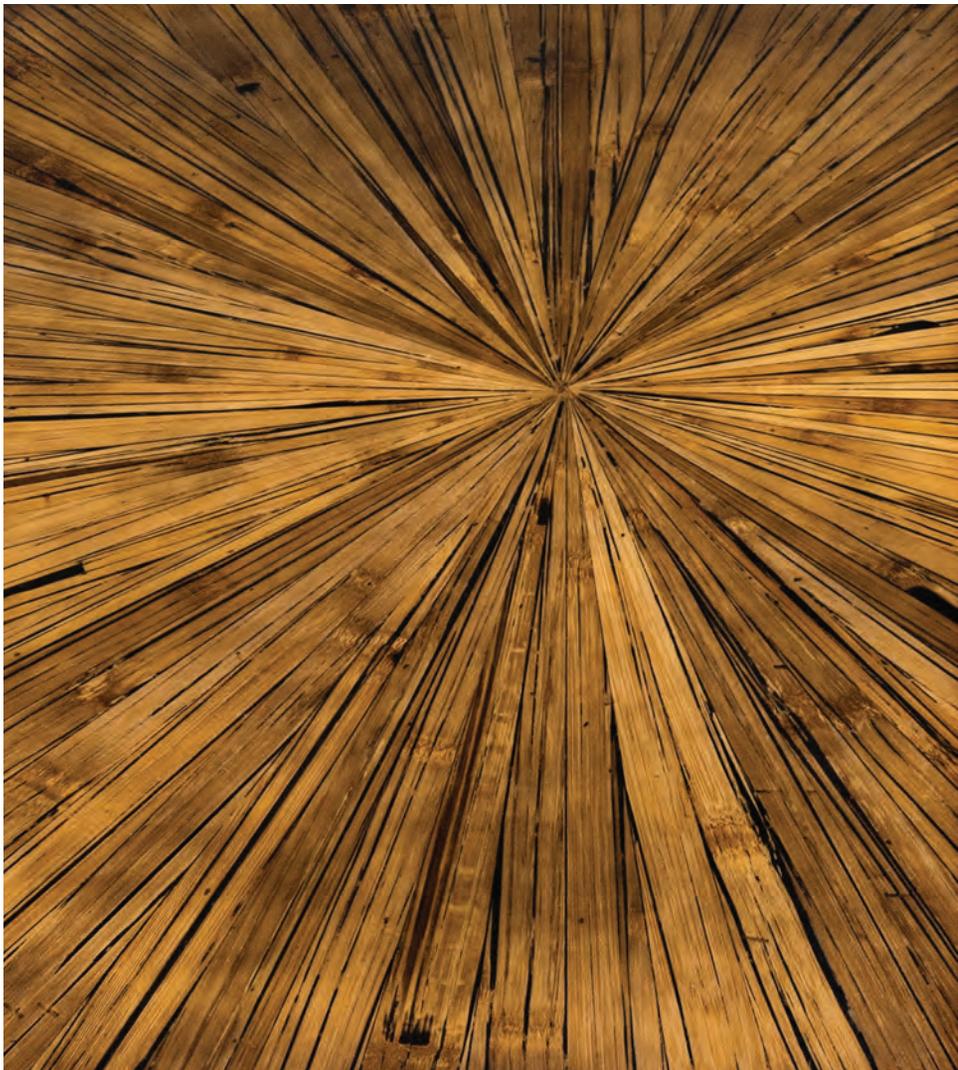
able on the internet today, our needs have never been more at our fingertips. Shopping to ensure you're getting the best rate possible is a good start. But feeling confident that you've chosen the right mortgage professional is an important part of the home buying process as well and is highly recommended to anyone buying a home.

Researching lenders in advance and deciding which one is right for you can help you avoid feeling rushed into making an uninformed decision. It's important to work with a lender who is accessible and experienced so that you can make informed decisions and close on time.

Talk to your friends, family and trusted real estate advisors to see what experiences they have had and who they recommend. Interest rates and costs are often competitive with one another, so make sure you carefully consider the value of having a trusted loan advisor who will work in your best interest and be available when you need him/her.

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Photos courtesy of Vicki and Jake Piatt



112 Governors Road

By Vicki and Jake Piatt

Country Club Real Estate

Most often considered the best community in Ponte Vedra Beach, the Plantation has consistently drawn those looking for the ultimate in an equity, members only club with its Arnold Palmer-designed golf course, Atlantic Ocean Beach Club, first-class clubhouse, tennis, croquet, fitness center and privacy.

It took the vision of a team of the best designers and craftsmen to remodel and bring the estate at 112 Governors Road to the highest level of absolute architectural perfection. The designers' focus was directed at making the beauty of the Island 15th Green an integral feature of the home. Panoramic lake and golf views abound through the walls of windows and two-story ceilings of the living and family rooms.

Anyone who places a great golf course view at the top of his/her bucket list will, upon entering the home, immediately walk to the rear lanai and see the ultimate lifestyle in family entertainment. The lanai features tongue-in-groove wood ceilings, island fans, a fire pit, seven fire bowls, an expansive summer kitchen and a saltwater pool and spa.

Considering how you would live in a 5,800-square-foot home, the design flow is ideal for most families. The first floor features a gorgeous master suite with a three-sided stone gas log fireplace and a sitting area overlooking the lagoon and green. There is an elegant master

bathroom with large his and her closets, a laundry and a gorgeous standalone tub. Nearby the master bedroom is an attractive office with hand-scraped wood floors, built-in cabinetry and a tiered tray ceiling. A convenient full powder bath is across the hall from the office and also serves as a pool bath.

This home also features a four-car garage with a paved courtyard and stone columns; a billiards loft with a bar overlooking the lakes and golf; a wine cellar; a sophisticated dining room; a chef's grade kitchen with a 14-by-4-foot granite island; a breakfast café with a green-view; a family room with a two-story stone fireplace; a grand entry foyer and elegant living room; three gas log fireplaces; two laundries; a balcony overlooking the vistas; a loft style library; a second floor gentleman's study with a conference room; and three guest bedroom suites.

Just as this home is considered one of the best, so is living in the Plantation, where you don't just get a home, you get the benefit of security patrols who'll do house checks on your home while you travel. You get mail delivery to your door and the best amenities imaginable, which include an oceanfront, private beach club, a first-class fitness center, a spectacular croquet court and pavilion, a great Har-Tru-surfaced tennis stadium and the newly rebuilt golf course.

This property is represented by Country Club Real Estate, listed by Vicki and Jake Piatt and offered at \$2,249,000.



OLD PONTE VEDRA BEACH HOME

offers resort living, access to beach

By Mike McAfee and Katie Hughes
RE/MAX Specialists PV

Steps to the Atlantic Ocean, 6 Ponte Vedra Circle is located in desirable Old Ponte Vedra Beach. Access to the beach is right across from the house, and the 5-Star rated Ponte Vedra Inn & Club is a short walk or bike ride away!

This coastal designed beach house was built in 2014 with all the latest building specifications and designer finishes. A disappearing wall of sliding glass doors allows natural light to fill the living spaces. When open, the home flows to the outside oasis complete with a pool, spa, summer kitchen, gas fireplace, outdoor cabana bathroom with washer and dryer, playground and your very own putting green. With a north-eastern exposure, you will enjoy the ocean breezes all day long.

With an open floor plan concept and 5,322 square feet, there are five bedrooms, four full bathrooms, two half bathrooms, an office and three flex rooms. The third-floor bonus space provides ocean views and would make a perfect home gym, media room or secondary office. The additional two flex spaces were designed for the growing family to have various TV or play areas.

The home is structurally sound, using the best building materials including the metal roof, cedar shake shingles and Icynene insulation. Designer lighting, smooth ceilings, wood flooring, wood ceiling beams and substantial molding

are indicative of the quality finishes in a Marcus Meide-built home. The vast kitchen will not disappoint the best of chefs with its sweeping countertop space and high-end appliances. A coastal-inspired design is apparent in the custom built white wood shaker cabinets, glass subway tile backsplash, white marble countertops and apron cast iron sink.

Stainless steel appliances include an impressive Thermador range with double ovens, six burners and a griddle; a built-in fridge with wood panel doors to match the cabinetry; a dishwasher with wood panel; pot filler; custom wood hood; and microwave. The detailed cabinets make cooking easy with storage solutions such as spice pull outs; appliance garages to hide the countertop appliances; and double garbage cans on the island and near the range. The oversized island even includes a cabinet and drawers under the bar area that are perfect for all the homework mess and family games! A nearby butler's pantry provides additional storage, a full size fridge and drop zone for all the backpacks and shoes.

Open to the kitchen, the remarkable family room affords stunning views of the pool and outdoor oasis. With the fireplace and wood-paneled wall as a focal point, the room lays out perfectly to allow the natural light from outside to mix with soft interior hidden recessed



Photos courtesy of Mike McAfee and Katie Hughes

MCAFFEE/HUGHES continues on Page 19

6 Ponte Vedra Circle



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McAfee/Hughes

Continued from 17

lighting. A bar is built into the room with cabinets matching the kitchen, marble countertops, a backsplash with a unique accent tile, a wine cooler, ice maker and sink. The home will continue to amaze with oversized bedrooms; plantation shutters; exquisitely finished bathrooms; two laundry rooms; tons of storage, including 536 square feet of finished attic space;

premium integrated sound system; and a perimeter mosquito protection system.

Location, location, location are the words for this home, as it is only a few steps to the beach, offering resort living in the most desirable community in Ponte Vedra Beach! It is also zoned for the A-rated St. Johns County schools and convenient to JTB restaurants and shopping.

This property is represented by RE/MAX Specialists PV, listed by Mike McAfee and Katie Hughes and offered at \$2,690,000.

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A summer day in ROME

By Francesca Rutherford

I'm originally from Rome, which is known as the Eternal City. It's always great to go back and visit my city once a year and live as a Roman and now as a tourist. I recently did just that with my family and wanted to share what makes a perfect summer day in my hometown.

First, waking up in the morning needs to be a moment of total happiness. Only the smell of a cup of caffè and cornetto (the Italian croissant) can make this happen. But that's not it! The noise of a window opening in front of ancient ruins or the activity from a Renaissance church or open air market, combined with everyday traffic noises, can transform a usual morning into a special one. Time runs slowly in Italy, especially on vacation. Enjoy it.

Next, change into some nice and comfortable clothes and a good pair of Italian shoes and go in the historical center of the city to enjoy the monuments, the fountains and the museums. I lived here 35 years of my life, but every time I see the Vatican from a bridge, Fontana di Trevi from a street corner or the Colosseum from a bus, it's like I'm seeing it for the first time. The excitement makes me speechless, and lots of memories with friends and family come to mind that make my heart full of wonderful feelings.

You cannot experience all of this by driving a car. Walking is the only way to completely enjoy the city. Small streets with flowers on the balconies, old buildings, statues from the Roman Empire, vintage snack bars and alimentari (grocery stores) will appear in front of you. I always like to visit old bookstores to see if I can find treasures or traces of the past. I also like to stop by a panetteria (bakery store) to buy fresh bread (especially the typical Roman rosetta that looks like a rose) or handmade pastries.

After hours of walking, I usually stop to have lunch. Lunch in Italy is a sacred moment of relaxation from the daily routine. During weekdays, I love visiting Via dei Coronari, a street

ROME continues on Page 22



ABOVE: Francesca Rutherford (right) enjoys a summer day in Rome with fellow Ponte Vedra Beach resident and friend Linda Lisowski.



LEFT: A famous street in Rome

Photos provided by Francesca Rutherford

“TIME RUNS SLOWLY IN ITALY, ESPECIALLY ON VACATION.”



Photo provided by Francesca Rutherford

Maria Vittoria and John Carlo Rutherford participate in this year's Corpus Domini and Flower Festival in Umbria.

A feast of flowers

By Francesca Rutherford

While visiting Rome with my family this summer, we participated in the Corpus Domini and Flower Festival in Umbria.

This year, the festival was held June 3. During the day and night before the event, almost a thousand people, including my children Maria Vittoria and John Carlo, worked strenuously to create carpets and pictures made of flowers along the narrow town's streets. The floral creations cover streets throughout the historical center in preparation of the passage of the blessed sacrament carried in procession by the bishop on the following Sunday morning. The momentous occasion takes place in Spello, a small village in Umbria where the Infiorata event began in the 1930s. It takes place every year on the day of the Corpus

Domini feast on the ninth Sunday after Easter.

It seems the first flower carpets were made June 29, 1625 in the Vatican Basilica by Benedetto Drei, head florist at the Vatican, and his son Peter, who used flower petals like mosaics to decorate the basilica on the day of Saints Peter and Paul's feast. Today, the Infiorata artists use flowers with various nuances of color and their petals to create both simple and elaborate designs on the streets leading up to their churches and abbeys.

After months of work on the actual design of the painting, they first sketch them on the floor in chalk and mark each line with soil or coffee grounds. Then comes the job of filling in the marvelous creations with flower petals, using individual petals the way painters use the colors on their palette.

It truly is a wonderful experience.

Lettuce do dinner

Local chef shares story, tips on Mason Jar Salads

By Alice Hickox

My passion for the culinary arts began in my teens when I took over the family cooking duties as my mother battled cancer.

Determined to help with my mom's healing process, I planned the family dinner menus in advance to include as many fresh vegetables and whole grains, while eliminating processed, cancer-fueling foods.

The farm-to-table, free range and wild caught concepts — so important today — were a way of life on my family's Georgia farm. Over the years, I honed my culinary skills through self-instruction and classes, as well as preparing diverse and creative meals for my own family. My passion for cooking eventually inspired me to start my own personal chef business, preparing healthy, delicious meals in my clients' kitchens.

Thirty-plus years later, my mom is cancer-free. Whether or not my role

as the family chef played a part in my mom's healing, I am a firm believer that the foods we choose to put into our body have a dramatic impact on our body's ability to thrive and prevent disease.

With the challenge to help my clients through my personal chef service, Lettuce Do Dinner, as well as personally consume more variety of seasonal produce, I have been turning to Mason Jar Salads, which can be made ahead of time and enjoyed all week. Maybe you've sipped some delicious sangria or lemonade from a mason jar? Or fished a pickle swimming in one? Maybe they are your "redneck wine glasses" at home? But have you had the pleasure of enjoying a Mason Jar Salad from one?

The secret to mason jar salads is the layering. You want the dressing — typically a vinaigrette of some sort — to go in first. Next, throw in the goodies that can hold up to being in contact with the dressing, then the proteins (think chopped chicken, hard boiled eggs, grains) and lastly, salad greens on top. To eat the salad, merely unscrew the lid, dump the concoction in a bowl and presto! It's instant salad with the dressing on top, just where it's supposed to be. These salads are not only pleasing to the



ABOVE: Ponte Vedra resident Alice Hickox is the president and founder of Lettuce Do Dinner, a personal chef team that offers customized menus based on each client's dietary requests and palates.

LEFT: The Mason Jar Salads are one of several creations by Hickox and Lettuce Do Dinner.

Photos courtesy of Alice Hickox

LETTUCE continues on Page 22

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Rome

Continued from 20

close to Piazza Navona (always crowded) that offers only antique stores and small trattorie establishments to eat traditional Roman meals and have a glass of wine. Locals come here to peacefully enjoy the beauty of the city. After lunch, everyone continues their visit until it's time for an

aperitif or drink.

Earlier this summer in June, I met with a Ponte Vedra Beach family, the Lisowskis, at Terrazza Borromini, a rooftop restaurant between Santa Maria dell' Anima and Piazza Navona. The view was spectacular. We had a great time, cheering to our vacations with special cocktails and appetizers and enjoying the sunset with its red and orange colors.

Cin cin, everyone!



Photo provided by Francesca Rutherford

A popular Italian pastry

Lettuce

Continued from 21

eye with all the colorful ingredients, but they can be made up to five days ahead while still maintaining their freshness.

This summertime Mason Jar Salad below is a favorite — packed with spinach, strawberries, roasted asparagus, red onion, grilled chicken and feta cheese with a fresh blueberry vinaigrette. Of course, you can make this recipe without the jar!



Photo courtesy of Alice Hickox

Spinach, Strawberry and Roasted Asparagus Salad

(Makes 2-quart size salads)

Fresh Blueberry Vinaigrette:

- 1/2 cup fresh blueberries
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 teaspoons raw honey
- Pinch of salt
- Freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup good quality olive oil

Place the blueberries, vinegar, honey, salt and pepper in a blender and blend until smooth. While the blender is running, slowly add the olive oil until desired consistency is reached.

Salad:

- 2 quart-size (wide mouth) mason jars
- 1/2 cup red onion slices
- 1/2 cup cucumber slices
- 4 large strawberries, halved or quartered
- 4-6 stalks roasted asparagus
- 6 ounces grilled or rotisserie chicken (optional)
- 4 cups organic baby spinach
- 4 tablespoons feta cheese
- 1/4 cup pre-sliced almond slivers

To roast asparagus: toss asparagus stalks in a little olive oil, salt and pepper until lightly coated; roast on baking sheet at 400 degrees Fahrenheit for seven minutes. Thoroughly cool before assembling salad and then cut into 1-inch pieces.

Place 4 tablespoons of blueberry vinaigrette in each jar. Divide the remaining ingredients in half and start layering in the order listed in ingredients starting with onion slices. Screw the jar lid on and enjoy within five days!

**Note: This recipe is easily adapted to vegetarian or dairy-free by omitting chicken and/or cheese and substituting chickpeas or a high protein grain such as a farro.*

For more information on Lettuce Do Dinner, Personal Chef Service, visit www.lettucedodinner.com.

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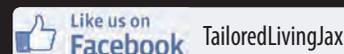
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Atlantica Isles at Beachwalk: A Vacation Every Day

By Doris Arnold

Watson Realty Corp.

Beachwalk is one of the hottest addresses in St. Johns County for 2018, and its Atlantica Isles coastal living models were unveiled June 23 at the grand opening and ribbon-cutting attended by over 500 guests.

Beachwalk delivers chic elegance to historically rich St. Johns County, which reigns No. 1 for “Best Counties to Live in Florida,” thanks to outstanding A+ schools and an A+ family rating as reported by NICHE.com. Nearly 800 homesites in the 1,100-acre Beachwalk are underway around the epic 14-acre Crystal Lagoon.

You can “live, eat and play at Beachwalk,” according to Patrick Coomer, division president of Americrest Luxury Homes. The development offers semi-custom luxury homes, cultured retailers, waterfront dining, shopping, water play, a 15,000-square-foot beach club, sporting outlets and luxury living all within walking or golf cart driving distance.

Americrest Luxury Homes, Inc. was founded by three of Florida’s most prominent real estate developers, Neil Eisner, Arthur Falcone and Albo Antenucci, Jr. This trio has a proven success record for luxurious living and is now offering this concept to St. Johns County. Americrest Sales Manager David Eisner said, “If you want a home that recognizes you as an individual, Americrest is right for you, as a customizable builder.”

Lauren Arcaro, director of sales and mar-

keting for Americrest Luxury Homes, Inc., said Americrest’s innovation makes dreams a reality, building the first homesites on the shore of historically one of the largest Crystal Lagoons to date in the U.S. Americrest offers four contemporary-style luxury model homes from 2,553 to nearly 4,000 square feet in two- and three-story elevations.

After the first big splash of the models and the grand opening, Americrest is offering design option credits and other incentives. Reservations are now, at a record pace, especially on the lagoon. To visit Atlantica Isles and see the four luxury models, travel I-95 and then east on CR210/Exit 329.



Photos courtesy of Doris Arnold



Palencia: A great location to call home



Photos courtesy of Janet Westling

By Janet Westling

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

Enter the gates of Palencia and experience a resort community in St. Augustine that is surrounded by 30 acres of nature preserve and eight miles of multi-use nature trails on the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

It is believed that when Florida was first discovered by Juan Ponce De Leon in 1513, the Spanish explorer came ashore on the Florida coast near the present-day location of Palencia and named this land “La Florida,” which means land of flowers. History tells us that he was searching for the Fountain of Youth, a water source that would bring eternal youth!

When my buyer Suzie Bojarski decided to leave South Florida and discover what North Florida living had to offer, she also set her sights on Palencia. She and her family, however, had their own search criteria for relocating to the area from Delray Beach.

“Delray Beach was once a quiet town but over the past 30 years, the population has doubled,” said Bojarski. “Delray was a special beach town, but development and an exploding population all contributed to the crowded roads and beaches and rising cost of living. It was time to move.”

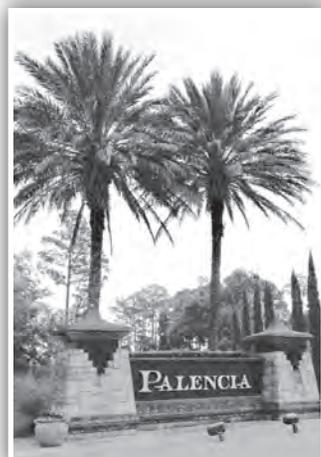
Bojarski and her family found the perfect home for a multigenerational household in Palencia on Cypress Crossing Trail. The family’s beautiful four-bedroom, three-full bath home has a design that is unique, spacious and offers privacy for each family. The original owners added two feet on the guest bedroom side of the home that creates three large bedrooms almost as spacious as the master on the opposite side of the home!

The location is convenient to St. Augustine, Nocatee and Jacksonville and offers a peaceful setting without the congestion the family left behind. The home overlooks a beautiful preserve in the back and in the front across the street.

“We fell in love with Palencia,” said Bojarski. “The neighborhood is beautiful, our neighbors are friendly and the amenities are amazing.”

Bojarski’s daughter Jennifer added that the view is peaceful and calming, especially when decompressing after a day of work.

The Palencia lifestyle includes a 40-acre Village Center, the Palencia Club with a 33,000-square-foot clubhouse and an 18-hole Arthur Hills-designed golf course. Residents can swim at the aquatic center or exercise at the fitness center. A very special feature is the walk on the nature trail to the Tolomato River Boardwalk, where residents can fish and enjoy spectacular Intracoastal views.





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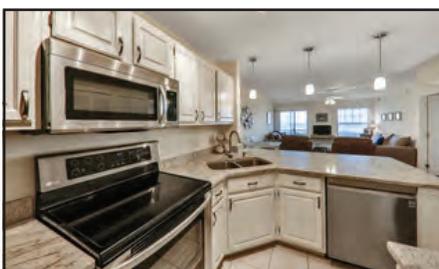


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Provence-inspired home provides tranquil setting and convenient location

By Peggie Black
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

How would you like to live moments from where you work and play? Nestled along the majestic greenway of Glen Kernan Parkway sits Villini at Glen Kernan, a 52-home gated boutique community just west of Mayo Clinic. This home at 4530 Carrara Court provides the opportunity to enjoy privacy as well as a no-commute lifestyle.

This Provence-inspired home was built with quality and craftsmanship by Pineapple Corporation. Attention to detail is evident as the iron-gated entry portal swings wide to an expansive courtyard garden complete with a large, three-tiered gurgling fountain and masonry garden walls. Guests will want to visit often to enjoy the comfort of a detached private casita with en-suite bath. A gracefully arched courtyard promenade leads to the main residence entry.

Step inside and you will notice the artful staircase with decorative iron railings, a custom wine room and the gleam of walnut-stained floors throughout. The chef in the house will love the large, open chef's kitchen with a Thermador gas cooktop, double ovens and Country French cream cabinets. Adjoining the kitchen is a lovely window-lined breakfast nook and morning kitchen. The spacious family room has a gas fireplace and a separate large study. French doors open to an oak-shaded backyard with a view of the neighborhood pond.

Beautiful exposed beams are found in both the family room and formal living area. The spacious, open concept formal living and dining areas are sure to please for large parties or small gatherings. They are light and bright with a wall of windows, grand exposed beams, beautiful fireplace and French doors that open to the courtyard.

At day's end, you may envision yourself reading a favorite book in the media loft, stepping into your spacious owner's suite to take a long luxurious soak in the deluxe

Whirlpool tub or having a quiet moment to watch the birds from one of two secluded balconies.

Offering easy access to JTB, Mayo Clinic, shopping, restaurants and the pristine beaches of Ponte Vedra, this conveniently located, four-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bathroom residence also features a three-car garage

BLACK continues on **Page 27**



Photos courtesy of Peggie Black

4530 Carrara Court



Marsh Landing home offers ample opportunities for multi-generational living, entertaining

By Elizabeth Hudgins
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services
Florida Network Realty

When Roger Postlethwaite and his wife Maxine McBride were house hunting nearly two decades ago, they not only needed a configuration ideal for teenagers and frequent family guests, but also enough space to entertain comfortably. The Ponte Vedra couple is known for their signature functions — from intimate dinners to themed parties to fundraisers for upwards of 100 guests.

The Postlethwaites had to look no further than Marsh Landing. They were fortunate to build a light-filled and sophisticated dream home on a beautiful private lot at 152 Clearlake Drive. With an outdoor courtyard, professionally-designed kitchen, three-bedroom suites and a private guest cottage, the European-inspired layout was specifically created

for their family, friends and entertaining.

“This house was built for multi-generational living, which has been ideal for our situation,” said McBride, owner of public relations agency Clockwork Marketing Services. “When we first moved in, our son was a teenager — and then later our teenage niece and adult daughter lived with us. Having a guest cottage with a full bath, mini kitchen and separate entry has been wonderful. This residence was also built for entertaining, and we have had many a party planned around the courtyard (probably my favorite space in the home), which we designed based on an outdoor courtyard we visited in France.”

The organic rock and slate floors of the courtyard — which visitors pass through upon entering the home — are a perfect complement to the outdoor fireplace, fountains and pond. Multiple sets of doors allow access from the family room,

as well as from the living room, office, guest house and master suite. The lush area has also been an ideal space for dining al fresco or hosting musical performances.

This amount of entertaining would not have been possible, said the couple, without the home's amazing

HUDGINS continues on **Page 27**



Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Hudgins

152 Clearlake Drive

Hudgins

Continued from 26

kitchen, which has been tried and tested by the professionals themselves. Some of the more famous parties have featured Chef Roy Yamaguchi, founder of Roy's, and Chef Matthew Medure of Matthew's and Restaurant Medure, headlining over-the-top dining experiences.

"When Roger was COO of LandMar Group and GreenPointe Holdings, we hosted clients and friends often, and the huge central work island in the kitchen allows for guests to watch the chefs do their magic," said McBride. "We also have an oversized laundry room with extra cabinet space next to the kitchen, which doubles as a catering kitchen."

A few years ago, the couple renovated parts of the home, including upgrading the master bath, painting and refinishing all floors. And of course, now that it is in nearly perfect shape, they are finally ready to downsize.

"I have to laugh at the old adage that right when a home is as you want it, you leave it," said McBride. "This is a truly special place, and we have so many amazing memories from our adventures here."

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Network Realty, listed by Elizabeth Hudgins and offered for \$925,000.

Black

Continued from 26

with custom built-in cabinets and an additional storage room. The delightful neighborhood of Villini at Glen Kernan is where friends gather, stroll the tree-lined sidewalks and share the joys of life. Welcome home!

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Peggie Black and offered for \$720,000.

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Magazines** "Top 250 advisors" in the US, and one of Forbes* "Best in State Wealth Advisors" for Florida. His advice has been featured in the Wall Street Journal for years, and he's been quoted as a financial expert in the national press for decades. Barron's* has called advisors like Jeff "the best people in the business" and "truly great financial advisors" and says that they are "accepted in the industry" as the "top 1%" who set "the highest standards of their profession." Forbes says it "scours... financial services industry" and has "uncovered great advisors" like Camarda "that are leading the way" and apply "best practices" to deliver a "high-quality experience for clients." Camarda's completed the CFP®, ChFC®, CLU®, CFS® and BCM™ designations**, and currently holds the CFA® investments expert and EA tax expert designations, as well as graduate degrees in financial planning, including a PhD in Financial and Retirement Planning. Dr. Camarda has written hundreds of articles and dozens of financial reports, whitepapers, and guides, and founded Wealth Education Radio. He is also an award-winning academic researcher into advisor competence and ethics. Camarda Wealth is A+ rated by the Better Business Bureau and has offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Fleming Island.

Dr. Camarda's Weekly Wealth Nugget

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Geraldo Rivera (center) with Dale and Janet Westling

BOOK SIGNING

An evening with **GERALDO RIVERA**

By Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

On June 2, my husband Dale and I hosted attorney, reporter, talk show host and author Gerald Rivera at our home in Sawgrass Country Club for a book signing of his personal memoir, "The Geraldo Show: A memoir." The private reception was attended by 55 people. Over 280 books were signed, and guests had the opportunity to pose for photos with Rivera during the signing.

After dinner, Rivera, who hosted the "The Geraldo Rivera Show" from 1987 to 1998, gave a wonderful talk about his career, his life and the defining moments that shaped and changed his trajectory. For example, he discussed how the attack on 9/11 motivated him to become a war correspondent in the Middle East and cover the search for Osama bin Laden. In addition, his reporting on the abuse and neglect of patients with mental disabilities at Willowbrook State School earned him Emmy and Peabody awards.

Rivera is an author of seven books and is a graduate of the University of Arizona and Brooklyn Law School.

Photos by Susan Griffin and courtesy of Janet Westling



Rivera with Carol and Bob Zoller



Rivera with Grier, Julie and Sam Wells



Rivera with Michelle, Charlie and Colette Belzer



Rivera with Judy and Gary Ball



Rivera with Michael and Congressman John Rutherford



Rivera with Claudette Croteau



Rivera with Chris, Scott, Allison and Emma Ferebee



Rivera with Faleesha Kreiger

Review: 'The Geraldo Show' is a must read for all ages

By Jesse Hagy

As an 18-year-old, I have missed out on most of Geraldo Rivera's fascinating career. I grew up during the Iraq War and the fighting in Afghanistan, and, at the time, I was too young to understand most of what was going on with these conflicts.

Geraldo Rivera's "The Geraldo Show: A Memoir," however, provided me with a deep and gripping understanding of what I missed and why it happened. The first "rock & roll" newscaster does a remarkable job at conveying his personal experiences while chasing conflict and exposing horrors.

The memoir covers Rivera's rise to fame, his relationship with his family, his reporting on Willowbrook State School, the War on Terror, his friendships with Roger Ailes and Donald Trump and more.

Rivera's Willowbrook story — also known as "The Last Great Disgrace" — catapulted him to celebrity status overnight and led to the shutdown of the institutions across the country that housed the no-longer forgotten disabled. Rivera's Willowbrook reporting is a testament to his bravery and ambition and just a preview of his daredevil personality that is later displayed in warzones across the globe.

It is clear throughout the book that there are a few people who Rivera holds great admiration of: his wife Erica, his children and Roger Ailes. Ailes changed Rivera's life and career when he allowed him to become a war correspondent for Fox News when NBC wouldn't. After losing 135 friends to the 9/11 attacks, Rivera took a massive pay cut and left his successful "Rivera Live" show to embed with troops in the Middle East, with the hope of capturing the moment of the defeat of

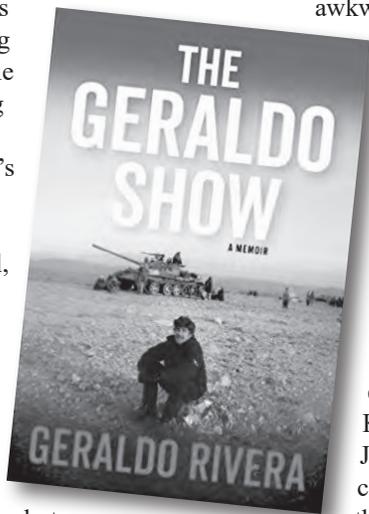
Osama bin Laden.

It would be 10 years before Bin Laden was killed, but Rivera would have the privilege of announcing the death of America's most wanted man. Without Ailes, Rivera would've never been able to travel to Iraq and Afghanistan 22 times, report on the war and provide the troops with entertainment and a voice.

"The Geraldo Show" also covers Rivera's appearance on "Dancing with the Stars," in which he shares some awkward moments with his dancing partner, Edyta Sliwinska, that include a joke about his ability to dance that left his partner's face blank. The book additionally covers his appearance on "The Celebrity Apprentice," in which he faced off with his unlikely rival, ex-boy band member Kevin Jonas. Although Jonas and several others conspired against Rivera, the newsman ultimately prevailed over his arch nemesis and placed second in the season.

Overall, not many people have sailed up the Amazon River, become close friends with a president, risked their lives in warzones or triumphed over relentless attacks from the media, but Rivera has. I highly recommend "The Geraldo Show" to people of all ages, but especially to younger readers who like me lived through many of the events in the book, but were too young to remember or fully understand them. Rivera's first-hand account reveals a collection of stories that compose the truly incredible life of the first "rock & roll" newsman, making "The Geraldo Show" a must-read.

You can find "The Geraldo Show" on Amazon for \$20.53.



Geraldo Rivera with Elizabeth and Jesse Hagy

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24554 HARBOUR VIEW DR.



This beautiful Spanish Revival style home features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathroom and 5,126 Sq. ft of living space. Enjoy the over-sized balcony with basin views or cross the street, where your 50' floating slip awaits you, with direct access to the Intracoastal Waterway. **MLS# 936445 / \$1,449,000**

538 MORNING SIDE DR.



This lovely 3BD, 2BA pool home is situated on a quiet corner lot with fresh exterior paint, new windows and contemporary updates. The outdoor living spaces are awesome with decks surrounding the pool and two side yards. **MLS# 932254 / \$719,900**

140 INDIAN COVE LN.



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1230 SALT CREEK ISLAND DR.



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Island living in Ponte Vedra Beach

By Barbara Maple

Watson Realty Corp.

Cross the bridge over the lagoons in Old Ponte Vedra Beach, and you will enter the popular island community of Lake Road and Lake Terrace.

About three blocks from the beach, this little island is just a quick jaunt to feeling sand between your toes. Ride your bike or drive your golf cart to the nearby Lodge & Club for a relaxing day by the oceanfront pool. Or hit up the Cabana Club next door. In whichever direction you go, there are clubs, restaurants, shopping and lots of outdoor recreation.

Located at 555 Lake Road, this home is on one of the best lots on the island, encompassing over a half-acre at the end of the cul-de-sac. The grand, two-story brick beauty offers four bedrooms, an office, four-and-a-half baths, approximately 4,463 heated/cooled square feet,

a three-car garage, screened pool and lanai, bulkhead and dock. The dock is an added bonus since it is grandfathered in, and docks are no longer allowed. Another bonus is the irrigation system. Water is drawn directly out of the lagoon, requiring no extra water usage on your water bill, negating the need for an irrigation well.

Entering the foyer, a striking great room opens with a two-story ceiling; rich, wood panels around the gas fireplace; double crown molding; and a wall of windows overlooking the pool and lagoon. Off to the left is a wet bar area adjacent to the breakfast room and welcoming kitchen. The kitchen comes equipped with newer appliances including a Wolf range; planning desk; prep island; and lagoon views galore.

On the other side of the kitchen is an

MAPLE continues on **Page 35**



Photos courtesy of Barbara Maple



555 Lake Road



Live where you golf, golf where you live

By Cyndi King

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Florida Network Realty

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach is a secure, gated community with a golf course that recently underwent a \$7+ million-dollar renovation under the guidance of Greg Letsche. The residence at 111 Surrey Lane is a beautiful garden home providing a haven within this well-maintained golf community, which is just steps from the tennis courts and clubhouse.

This cul-de-sac garden home features a great room with gas fireplace framed by custom built-in cabinetry and bookshelves. The split floor plan features a spacious master bedroom with a deep tray ceiling and luxurious bathroom. Two additional bedrooms joined with a Jack and Jill bathroom are privately located on the other side of the home. The office/den can easily be a fourth bedroom. The updated kitchen

has Cambria quartz countertops, updated, matching stainless steel appliances, abundant cabinetry and a breakfast bar. New wood-look porcelain tile floors have been installed throughout the home.

The Plantation encompasses 650 acres of land with 133 acres of golf course and four acres of oceanfront. In addition, six acres were recently utilized to develop Plantation Commons, a brand new amenity park. The Beach House, an oceanfront beach club renovated in 2016, is a quick bike ride from the front gate and is open 365 days a year. The beach club features a junior Olympic-sized pool, barbecue grills, a fire pit, paddle boards and surf boards, a playground, grass yard and open beach access for pets.

The golf course is 7,141 yards of beauty and beast, satisfaction and challenge. The course underwent a significant revitalization throughout 2016 in which the greens,

KING continues on **Page 35**



Photos courtesy of Cyndi King

111 Surrey Lane



Marsh Landing home offers expansive nature views and luxury living

By Michelle Floyd and Cici Anderson
Marsh Landing Country Club Realty

Located at 220 North Wind Court in Marsh Landing Country Club, this home is in a prime location with jaw-dropping views.

The long-range views encompass wetlands, waterways and swaying palms. The expansive view is accented with a private dock and water access out to the Intracoastal Waterway. This summer is the perfect time to enjoy the coastal waterway in your boat or jet ski from your backyard.

The centerpiece of the home is a newly constructed entertainment room. Walls of glass bring the outside in with incred-

ible views — bathed in sunlight! It's a very diverse room with several seating areas and bar areas. The entertainment room is just off the family room and open kitchen area. The traffic plan for everyday living and entertaining could not be more perfect.

A spacious master suite is located on the main level, as well as two additional bedrooms and a study. Upstairs is a second master suite or guest bedroom plus a bonus. Off the upstairs master, there is a deck with incredible views in all directions. The uniqueness of the home continues with an air conditioned, 2,000 bottle wine cellar.

FLOYD/ANDERSON continues on **Page 35**



220 North Wind Court



Photos courtesy of Michelle Floyd and Cici Anderson



Oceanfront home provides array of amenities to entertain residents and their guests

By Kim Hutchings and Laura Bishop
First Coast Sotheby's International Realty

Located at 559 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, this recently renovated property features 2,945 square feet with three bedrooms and four full bathrooms.

The first floor features imported Italian porcelain tile, and upstairs has Brazilian hardwood flooring. The house includes custom kitchen cabinetry offering abundant storage, shiplap trim, beautiful Carrara marble countertops and backsplash and a Wolf induction range, oven and microwave. Other amenities include a Sub-Zero refrigerator, Fisher & Paykel DishDrawers, a Thermador coffee station and a wine chiller.

The upstairs owner's suite offers endless ocean vistas, a spa-like bath and a wonderful barn style entry door to the huge custom-fitted closet. There is a spacious downstairs guest suite, a third downstairs bedroom and an oversized laundry room.

This open floor plan is perfect for entertaining or peaceful relaxation at the shores of the Atlantic, and you can enjoy the new Sonos system with surround sound throughout the home, patio and pool, all controlled by a touch to your iPhone or iPad.

Step outside and enjoy the warm breeze and gentle sound of the ocean. Any grill

HUTCHINGS/BISHOP continues on **Page 35**



Photos courtesy of Kim Hutchings and Laura Bishop

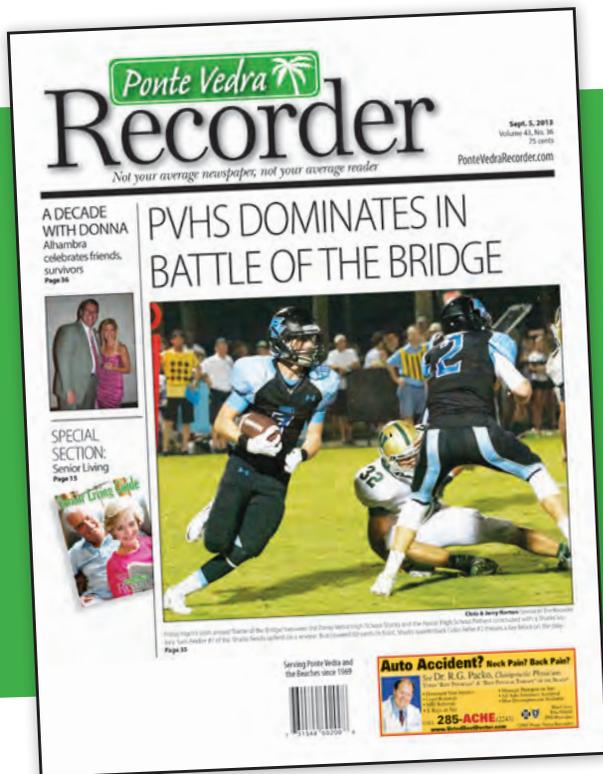
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Tips on preparing your pool for hurricane season

By Judson Clarkson

Pools by John Clarkson

This is a two-part article on how to prepare your pool for hurricane season. The second part will appear in the next edition of Sand Castles in October.

Many of you are likely busy preparing for your summer vacation, or perhaps you are back from vacation and are consumed with getting your kids ready for school. Before you know it, we will hear weather reports of a storm that is forming in the Atlantic and heading this way. After all, we are already close to two months into the 2018 hurricane season if you can believe it!

The last thing any homeowner wants to think about right now is a potential hurricane, especially after families in Northeast Florida have had a rough past couple of seasons and some are still dealing with damage caused by Irma. Nevertheless, it is better to make your plan and ask the questions now, while things are calm, before the storm is a couple days away from landfall.

For better or worse, many pool owners have become proficient in hurricane preparedness thanks to Irma and Matthew. But for those who need a little advice, we thought it would be beneficial to review a few tips regarding how to prepare your pool for a hurricane. We'll go into a few of these tips in this issue and then review the others in the following edition.

The challenge is each pool, deck space and yard are different. You may have commercial size deck drain or great natural change in elevation that assists with natural drainage, or you may have minimal deck drainage or drains that are clogged with dirt and don't allow for much drainage at all. Each situation is unique and must be viewed as such.

The first question pool builders are asked is, "Should I drain my pool or lower the water level at all?" The Florida Swimming Pool Association (FSPA) does not mince words when it comes to emptying your pool. They strongly advise for homeowners to not empty their pool.



Photos courtesy of Pools by John Clarkson

Joel Hartman, Jordan Clarkson, Judson Clarkson and John Clarkson from Pools by John Clarkson

The reason being, if water is removed from the pool, and the heavy rains from the storm raise the water table in your area, you may walk outside after the storm to find your pool floating in your yard. Because you removed the weight of the water, which was holding the pool shell down, the pressure from the water table under the pool becomes forceful enough to push the structure out of the ground causing all sorts of other problems.

The follow up question we get is, "Should I drain the water level inside the pool at all?" The answer varies greatly depending on your particular situation. If your surrounding deck has sufficient drainage and the water from your deck and house gutters properly drains into the yard, lowering the level in the pool may not be needed. If, however, you are concerned with the pool overflowing and the drainage not keeping up, you can lower the level of water in your pool, but you are opening yourself up to other risks.

The FSPA recommends to not lower the pool more than one foot for a typical pool with standard depths as you do not want to drain the pool too much in the chance the pool floats with ground saturation. The other issue with draining the pool below your waterline tile is you need to make



sure to shut off the valve and close off your skimmer. If water does not flow into your skimmer while the pump is running, your pump will run dry and burn up causing potentially serious issues. Other pool owners choose to drain their pool to the bottom of their waterline tile but leave it high enough so that water is still getting inside their skimmer to prevent any potential issues with the pump.

In the next edition of Sand Castles, we'll discuss what to do if you do decide to drain your pool, other preventative measures that should be taken and what should be done after the hurricane passes.

Judson Clarkson is the vice president of residential pools for Pools by John Clarkson. For more information, visit <http://www.pbjc.com>.

Maple

Continued from 32

opulent formal dining room with its own special features. A large bay window looks south towards the lagoon; beautiful built-in cabinets adorn the north wall; and the best feature of all is a glass wall peeking through to the wine room.

The downstairs area is rounded out with an office, laundry room, powder room and luxurious master bedroom

complete with sitting area and water views. The master bath includes his and hers separate vanities, a garden tub and walk-in shower with double doors. Upstairs offers three more bedrooms, three baths and two large storage areas. The home was custom built in 1993 by the current owners, who are sad to see it go, but look forward to the next owners enjoying this beautiful piece of the island.

This home is represented by Watson Realty Corp., listed by Barbara Maple and offered at \$1,800,000.

King

Continued from 32

tees and bunkers were rebuilt. The drainage system was upgraded and a new irrigation system was installed.

The Tennis Club features seven HARTRU courts with lights for night play. The Tennis Pavilion has a covered porch and a grandstand-style patio. Adjacent to that is a neighborhood playground and basketball court. Active tournament and event schedules are designed for men, women, couples and kids.

The Plantation House Club House, renovated in 2008 and expanded to 25,000 square feet, offers casual and more formal dining options. The fitness center, community library and locker rooms are located on the bottom floor. The fitness center provides the latest in weight resistance and cardiovascular equipment to help keep members in good health. A separate fitness studio is available for group and individual exercise classes.

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Cyndi King and offered for \$500,000.

Floyd/Anderson

Continued from 33

To drive through Marsh Landing is like driving through a nature preserve. This home completes the philosophy of the developer by bringing the "outside in." The natural surrounding is accented by the natural vegetation and English garden feel of the backyard. A winding paved path leads to a gathering area and seating area around

a fire pit with lush vegetation. Birds are delighted by the natural flowering vegetation, providing music to the ears! The outdoors is in total harmony with nature.

This home is the epitome of elegance with a luxurious design to integrate into nature. It's located in a prized spot with access to golf, tennis, pool and fine dining. The property is represented by Marsh Landing Country Club Realty, listed by Michelle Floyd and Cici Anderson and offered for \$1,450,000.

Hutchings/Bishop

Continued from 33

chef will love the custom summer kitchen with a stainless steel Twin Eagles gas grill and Danver outdoor cabinetry with a lifetime warranty against corrosion, all designed in a beautiful stone surround. The huge lanai offers plenty of room for dining, relaxing around the stunning fire pit and even dancing under the moonlight.

If you prefer, spend playful days and evenings in your fabulous heated pool with cozy seating and a lighted waterfall. The entire exterior is warmly lit with

sconces and landscape lighting, and you and your guests can enjoy a fully enclosed outdoor shower with hot and cold water.

The courtyard garage and extra parking pad offers an unbelievable amount of space for visitors. With every desirable amenity at your fingertips in your own home, you will probably never want to leave, but if you desire dinner, a workout, tennis or golf, two of the renowned Ponte Vedra clubs, the Lodge and the Inn & Club, are a short stroll north and south.

This property is represented by First Coast Sotheby's International Realty, listed by Kim Hutchings and Laura Bishop and offered for \$3,795,000.

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STORM READINESS



FEMA encourages Floridians to buy flood insurance

While August marks the halfway point of the hurricane season, FEMA is reminding Floridians that the most active months of the season remain, and so does the need for flood insurance.

According to FEMA, a policy does not take effect until 30 days after the date of purchase. But once a named storm approaches, it's too late to buy a flood policy; insurance companies suspend binding coverage until after the storm passes. Buying and maintaining flood insurance now, the agency said, will help protect Floridians financially from storm damage that could occur later.

FEMA is reminding Floridians that standard homeowners insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Flood damage, according to the agency, is most often called an excluded peril, meaning it's not covered. A flood insurance policy protects policyholders financially even when a presidential disaster is not declared or if they live in a county that was not designated for federal assistance.

Per the agency, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has more policies in Florida than any other state. Only about half of Florida homeowners



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

in high-risk areas, however, had insurance against flooding before Hurricane Irma made landfall Sept. 10, 2017. In addition, FEMA noted that floods can happen almost anywhere, reporting that almost 30 percent of flood insurance claims come from low-to-moderate risk areas and receive one-third of all federal disaster assistance for flooding.

By July 12, 2018, FEMA said 33,111 NFIP claims for Irma damage had been filed. More than \$1.1 billion had been paid to policyholders, with an average closed claim payment of \$49,740.

Floridians are eligible to purchase an NFIP policy as long as their community participates in NFIP. According to FEMA, the national average annual policy for home and business owners is about \$700 for up to \$250,000 in coverage. Properties

in moderate-to-low risk areas may qualify for lower-cost Preferred Risk Policy rates.

In addition to coverage for structures, NFIP offers contents coverage as low as \$48 per year in some areas for home and business owners and renters. Policies may help with up to \$100,000 in losses for residences and up to \$500,000 for businesses.

For information on flood risk and flood insurance, visit www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program or call (800) 427-4661 for voice, 711 and Video Relay Service.



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Be financially prepared for natural disasters



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

By Karsten Jacobson, CFP®

Just this past year, we've seen natural disasters in Texas, California, Florida and Puerto Rico — and looking back even further, it's not hard to spot other traumas in virtually every part of the country. Whether it's a tornado, hurricane, flood or wildfire, you may be at least potentially susceptible to a weather-related event that could threaten your physical — and financial — well-being. How can you protect yourself?

As far as your physical safety is concerned, you're probably already aware of the steps you need to take to shield yourself and your family. And now that many alerts can be sent directly to your smartphone, you've got an even better

chance to prepare for an approaching threat. But when it comes to safeguarding your financial situation, you'll need to be ready well in advance — and the following moves can help:

■ **Strengthen your home.** Your home is probably your biggest asset, so you'll want to do everything you can to keep it safe. In the face of a truly calamitous event, such as hundred-mile-per-hour winds or the advance of uncontrollable fire, there may not be much you can do, but in less dire circumstances, your actions can help. Your insurance professional can offer tips on protecting your residence.

■ **Maintain sufficient insurance.** It's a good idea to review your existing homeowners or renters insurance periodically to make sure you are sufficiently covered for all possible hazards. Keep in mind that homeowners insurance does not typically cover flooding, so you may need to purchase flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program. (Depending

on where you live, this coverage may be required when you get your mortgage.) Also, in conjunction with maintaining your insurance, you should document your possessions, so you may want to make a video inventory as well as a written list containing descriptions and values.

■ **Create an emergency fund.** A natural disaster can lead to a wide array of unanticipated costs: appliance repair or replacement, hotel and restaurant bills, insurance deductibles — the list could go on and on. Consequently, you'll help protect yourself and your family by building an emergency fund. Some of this money should go into a liquid, low-risk account, but you may also want to keep a small amount of cash at home in a safe place, as ATMs and credit cards may not work during or following a disaster, when you must purchase needed supplies.

■ **Protect your documents.** As you go through life, you'll accumulate a lot of documents — mortgage papers, insurance

policies, financial accounts, tax statements and so on. If disaster strikes, you may need these documents. You'll want to store paper copies in a fireproof and waterproof box or safe at home, in a bank safety deposit box or with a relative or close friend. Of course, we're now living in a digital age, so you can store electronic copies of important documents in a password-protected format on a removable flash or external hard drive. Better yet, you might want to use a secure cloud-based service.

With luck, you can avoid being victimized by a natural disaster. But, as the old saying goes: "Hope for the best and prepare for the worst." From a financial perspective, that's good advice.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP®, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Staff from the GTM Reserve and Northeast Florida Aquatic Preserves, as well as community volunteers, plant sea oats along the GTM beach to protect the shoreline during hurricane season.

Photo courtesy of the GTM Research Reserve



GTM Research Reserve and community volunteers plant sea oats to restore dunes at beach

More than 2,000 sea oats were recently planted along the beach of the Department of Environmental Protection's Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) Research Reserve to protect the shoreline during hurricanes and tropical storms.

GTM and Northeast Florida Aquatic Preserves staff, their families and community volunteers joined together for the project.

"Sea oats help protect the shoreline," said Dr. Michael Shirley, director of the GTM Research Reserve. "The massive root system of the sea oats is able to hold soil and sand in place during extreme weather events such as hurricanes and tropical storms."

According to the GTM Research Reserve, sea oats are valuable as a dune builder and stabilizer

in the Southeastern United States, Eastern Mexico and some Caribbean islands. Their tall leaves trap wind-blown sand and promote sand dune growth, while their deep roots act to stabilize them, helping protect beaches and property from damaging high winds, storm surges and tides.

"We work hard to help make our coastline more resilient, especially so that we are prepared for hurricane season," said Scott Eastman, manager for the Northeast Florida Aquatic Preserves. "Planting sea oats on our beach helps develop natural resiliency to act as a first line of defense against storm surge and other effects from sea level rise."

The reserve plans to continue monitoring this restoration project to gauge success and to guide future DEP dune restoration efforts.

Florida's First Coast Relief Fund prepared for hurricane season

Partners of Florida's First Coast Relief Fund are prepared to once again activate the Relief Fund if disaster strikes.

Created in 2016 to aid with Hurricane Matthew relief and to establish a permanent disaster relief fund, Florida's First Coast Relief Fund is a strategic collaboration founded by United Way of Northeast Florida, United Way of St. Johns County, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, the Jewish Federation of Jacksonville and the Jessie Ball duPont Fund.

Last year, in the wake of Hurricane Irma, Florida's First Coast Relief Fund granted more than \$3.56 million to 33 Northeast Florida nonprofits providing disaster-relief services. Through this, more than 253,231 individuals and households were served.

"The generosity of our community in that time of crisis — neighbors helping neighbors — was incredible," said Michelle Braun, president and CEO of United Way of Northeast Florida, the fiscal agent and grant manager for the Relief Fund. "We are so thankful for the individuals, corporations and partners who came together to heal Northeast Florida."

The Relief Fund supports immediate and intermediate unmet needs. One hundred percent of all donations go to relief efforts. Nearly \$3.8 million was raised for Hurricane Irma relief. The Relief Fund's remaining \$200,000 will be available for immediate response for future disasters.

The fund distributes grants only to organizations helping individuals and households impacted by natural disasters in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties. The Relief Fund provides resources to meet needs not met by insurance, FEMA or other state and federal programs or to fill the gap while other long-term assistance is being put in place.

After Hurricane Irma, the top three relief needs fell into the following categories: rent and mortgage assistance; home/nonprofit stabilization and repair; and food. All distributions from the Relief Fund are overseen by a committee comprised of representatives of the Relief Fund partners, the City of Jacksonville, Mayo Clinic and the Jaguars Foundation.

For more information on Florida's First Coast Relief Fund, including the official Hurricane Irma report, visit unitedwaynefl.org/relieffund/ reporting.



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Business Weekly

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Hand & Stone opens
new location in
Jacksonville Beach

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All aboard the Jim Clark Express

Local business leader, Rotarian mobilizes community to honor retired Daniel Kids CEO

By Samantha Logue

Every community has its heroes, but often times those heroes go unsung. Thanks to the efforts of one Ponte Vedra Beach business leader, however, local hero Jim Clark will be remembered for years to come.

A member of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, Clark recently retired from his role as CEO of Daniel Kids after 27 years of dedication to improving the lives of local children and families. When fellow Rotarian and Brightway Insurance Ponte Vedra Beach owner Billy Wagner learned of Clark's retirement, he knew he had to do something to memorialize that legacy.

"I became passionate about this, because I've been a 'big brother' in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program for about 10 years," Wagner explained. "My 'little (brother)' went through a really traumatic experience last year, and I called Jim Clark, who was leading Daniel, and the work, the counseling that they did with him ... was so moving for me that I said, 'I'm going to do something to give back to Daniel.'"

With the opening of a Therapeutic Group Home this year for kids ages 12 to 17, Clark advised Wagner that Daniel Kids was in need of a van for transportation to and from medical appointments, school and other engagements. Upon hearing the news, Wagner — who was president of the



Photo courtesy of Billy Wagner

Brightway Insurance Ponte Vedra Beach owner Billy Wagner (center) and staff contribute \$8,200 toward Daniel Kids' Jim Clark Express van.

Rotary Club at that time — sprang into action and mobilized the troops.

"We do a big fundraiser every year," Wagner said. "As president of the Rotary Club, I got to select who the main beneficiary was, so I selected Daniel, which gave them \$15,000 to support this van."

Although the \$15,000 covered a significant portion of the cost of the van, additional funds were still needed to purchase it. Determined to achieve his goal, Wagner set about finding other ways to raise money for his cause.

"We did a push-up contest at Rotary," he said. "I donated \$10 for every push-up, and then we bet on who could do the most push-ups, which was a lot of fun. I donated \$7,000 for that cause, some of the other members donated another \$800 in bets and then people gave their winnings too, so the

Rotary Club really participated in it a lot."

Even with the additional donations from Rotarians, however, the van was still just out of reach, so Wagner personally reached out to some of his professional contacts and was eventually able to raise a grand total of \$25,386.30.

With the check to secure the van signed and delivered this past week, Wagner advised that the vehicle will serve as a memorial to Clark's many years of devoted service.

"He was there for 27 years with Daniel, and he really impacted the community," Wagner said. "He's just a great leader and a hero for kids, so the van will be called the 'Jim Clark Express.'"

To learn more about Daniel Kids and its various outreach programs for families and children, visit www.danielkids.org.

Developers complete 14-acre lagoon at Beachwalk

Beachwalk celebrated a major milestone this week when developer John Kinsey emptied the last gallon of water into the new community's 14-acre Crystal Lagoon, ultimately completing the amenity.

The lagoon contains 37 million gallons of water and serves as the anchor for Beachwalk, bringing a little bit of the Caribbean to North-east Florida.

"Some said it wouldn't happen," said Kinsey of the lagoon. "I think today, with the filling of the lagoon, we have silenced the doubters. There's nothing else like it in Northeast Florida."

Set against a white lining, the lagoon has taken on the natural turquoise hue that will deepen to a "Caribbean" blue. The sparkling waters are surrounded by a 100-foot white-sand beach with wavy palms and winding footpaths.

Beachwalk is part of the New Twin Creeks Planned Unit Development, a designated 3,000-acre Development of Regional Impact off County Road 210. Kinsey's group has owned the site for 13 years.

LAGOON continues on Page 41

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A new Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa location in Jacksonville Beach at 1858 3rd St. S. is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Photo courtesy of Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa



Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa opens new Jacksonville Beach location

Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa opened a new Jacksonville Beach location on Monday, July 23 in Pablo Plaza, located at 1858 3rd St. S.

The new spa is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

“I’m excited to bring this affordable luxury to the Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach communities,” franchise

owner Shailesh Patel said. “I enjoy the concept of relaxation and knowing that people can walk away from our business feeling refreshed and happy.”

Hand & Stone is a massage and facial spa franchise launched in 2005 by physical therapist John Marco. It has nearly 400 units in 28 states, and in Canada. For more information, visit www.handandstone.com.

Lagoon

Continued from 40

The community features a Caribbean, Key West and West Indies style — metal-roof homes, Bermuda grass and every type of palm tree that will grow well in North Florida.

In addition to the lagoon, Beachwalk will feature water slides, a miniature golf course and a 2,500 square-foot splash park for dogs. A planned clubhouse has been styled after one seen at a multi-billion-dollar Caribbean beach and golf resort. Residents will be able to swim, paddle kayaks or stroll along a boardwalk. Or they can enjoy a 3,000-square-foot swim-up bar at the edge of the lagoon. There will be golf cart paths throughout, allowing residents to access the beach club and other amenities without having to drive their cars.

“The whole community really is walkable,” Kinsey said. “You really can walk to the beach.”

Construction at Beachwalk includes

single-family homes and twin villas on the lagoon by homebuilders Americrest Luxury Homes, Lennar and Vintage Estate Homes.

Beachwalk will have nearly 800 homes at build-out. The community is located just one mile east of Interstate 95, close to U.S. Route 1 and on the main east-west highway to Ponte Vedra Beach.

The developer is investing \$35 million to widen County Road 210 from two to six lanes, and provided two school sites to the St. Johns County School District. Of Beachwalk’s 1,200 acres, 500 are set aside for preserve.

For more information visit www.mybeachwalkhome.com.

Surfside Dental Center hosts Sunny Summer Social

Dr. Pauline Le and her team from Surfside Dental Center hosted a Sunny Summer Social featuring hors d’oeuvres, refreshments and raffle prizes on Thursday, July 19.

Born in Hawaii and raised in Jacksonville, Le is a graduate of the University of North Florida and Nova Southeastern University where she earned her Doctor of Dental Medicine degree. After starting her college career, Le explored multiple health fields, shadowed several dentists and realized her passion for interacting with patients and working in the field of dentistry.

For more information on Surfside Dental Center, call (904) 247-2626. The practice is located at 630 Atlantic Blvd. #7 in Neptune Beach.



Crystal White, Caroline Schroeffer, Dr. Pauline Le, Vincent Morgan, Anna Westmoreland and Haley Brown gather at the social held at Surfside Dental Center July 19.

Photos by Ed Johnson

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Science fiction, fantasy writer to share how to add 'real' in world of unreal

Tim Robinson will hold presentation at FWA Ponte Vedra Writers meeting July 28

Most writers have heard the adage to "write what you know." But what if you're writing science fiction and fantasy where

stories and characters may be set in alien lands and distant futures?

Author T. S. (Tim) Robinson will show writers how to incorporate the real world into their science fiction and fantasy writing at the next meeting of the FWA Ponte Vedra Writers on Saturday, July 28, at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

Robinson's presentation, "Using the Real in Your Science Fiction and Fantasy," will explore ways the writer can use our world to inspire and inform their writing. He said writers will learn these three things from his workshop:

1. Thorough/thoughtful world building
2. Consistency/continuity editing
3. Attention to details/careful design

Robinson spent his adolescence immersed in role-playing games, especially "Dungeons & Dragons." He took up the pen seriously in 1995 to write his own fantasy stories, but after a series of "good, but not good enough" rejection letters, he sought out the mentorship of one of his favorite writers, Piers Anthony, who took Robinson under his wing and showed him



Tim Robinson

the subtle nuances of writing for publication versus for writing for pleasure.

Robinson has published three novels since then and tours convention circuits as a literary guest throughout Florida. In 2012, he founded the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of Jacksonville (SFF-JAX) writing group where he provides writing workshops to aspiring writers.

The Ponte Vedra Writers group is part of the Florida Writers Association, a statewide, non-profit organization with over 1,500 members dedicated to the support of both aspiring and published writers in any genre. The July 28 meeting is open to members and non-members alike. For information on FWA, visit www.floridawriters.net.

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Cole Porter classic coming to the Alhambra

'Kiss Me, Kate' opens Aug. 1

Cole Porter's 1948 musical "Kiss Me, Kate" will open at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining Aug. 1, offering a modern take on a Shakespearean classic.

Exes Fred Graham and Lilli Van-essi, both actors in a musical version of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," can't decide if they're enraged, enamored or enormously confused whenever they cross paths out of character. Throw in some mistaken identity, a pair of surprisingly eloquent gangsters and a whole lot of romantic entanglements, and what you get is "Kiss Me, Kate" — a dazzling classic that earned the first-ever Tony Award for Best Musical.

"Kiss Me, Kate" was Cole Porter's response to Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" and the first show he wrote in which the music and lyrics were firmly integrated into the script. The show proved to be his biggest hit and the only one of his shows to run for more than 1,000 performances on Broadway. In March 2015, it was announced that the 1949 original cast recording would be inducted into the Library of Congress' National Recording Registry for the album's "cultural, artistic and/or historical significance to American society and the nation's audio legacy." This coming February, the show will open its revival on Broadway.

For the duration of the show's run, Alhambra Executive Chef DeJuan Roy will be cooking up a culinary experience fitting of the longest-running dinner theater in America. For the first course, patrons will have their choice between chilled cucumber bisque with shrimp and dill or caprese salad with diced tomatoes, mini mozzarella balls, pesto and balsamic glaze. Second course options will include southern-style pepper steak with white rice; barbecue chicken with baked macaroni and cheese and collard greens; scallops carbonara with penne pasta and sweet peas; and roasted vegetarian kabobs with yellow rice pilaf and smoked tomato sauce. Featured desserts will be sorbet with Meyer lemon cookies and Key Lime pie.

"Kiss Me, Kate" will run Aug. 1 through Sept. 9 at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining, which is located at 12000 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville. Tickets start at \$38 and include a three-course meal, a Broadway-style performance and complimentary parking. Tickets can be purchased online at www.alhambra-jax.com or by calling (904) 641-1212.

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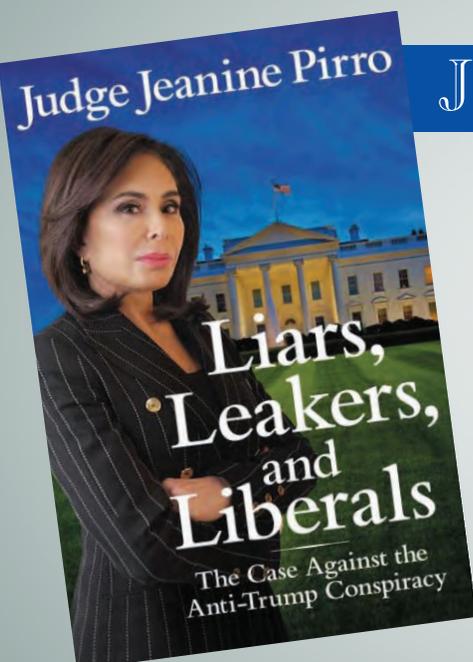
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Sports



THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018 • PAGE 43 www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Davis Roche wins 57th Jacksonville Amateur

With storms forcing cancellation of the final round, Davis Roche, a member of the host venue, Jacksonville Golf and Country Club, was declared the 57th winner of the Jacksonville Amateur Championship conducted by JAGA on Sunday, July 22.

The 22-year-old claimed a two-shot victory on his home turf, defeating 2006 champion David Anthony (71-70) of Marsh Landing Country Club. Finishing third, six shots back of Roche, was the reigning JAGA Senior Amateur champion John Lobb (70-75), a fellow club member.

The difference proved to be Roche's eagle-birdie-par finish on the closing holes on Saturday at the perfectly conditioned 6,892-yard layout. A recent graduate of Valdosta State University and 2018 All-Gulf South Conference selection, Roche recorded six birdies and an eagle en route to a 4-under-par 68. His first-round 71 included three more birdies. At 139, he was 5-under par.



Photo courtesy of JAGA

2018 Jacksonville Amateur Championship winner Davis Roche of Jacksonville Golf & Country Club displays his awards following the tournament.

AMATEUR continues on Page 44



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Josean Gonzalez named wrestling coach at PVHS

State tourney, youth program among goals for former St. Augustine High coach

By Paris Moulden

Josean Gonzalez has been named the new wrestling coach at Ponte Vedra High School (PVHS), and he has big plans for the Sharks in the upcoming seasons.

Gonzalez, a recent graduate from the University of North Florida, took a break from coaching wrestling last season to continue his education, but he's ready to return to the sport he loves.

"It feels great (to be back)," Gonzalez said. "It was the first season in about 12 years that I didn't have wrestling."

Among the things Gonzalez wants to do at PVHS is revamp the wrestling room, and he also aims to lead the Sharks to the state tournament this season.

"Placing top three in the district would be above and beyond expectations," Gonzalez said. "That would be the icing on the cake. If we can do that, then I know we're headed in the right direction."

Gonzalez, who began his coaching career at Orange Park Junior High in 2009



Josean Gonzalez

and was the head coach at St. Augustine High School from 2012-2017, also wants to focus on the culture surrounding the program and getting more attention on the wrestling program.

"Wrestling often falls to the wayside to other sports," Gonzalez said. "Having that culture of accountability is definitely something I want to instill at Ponte Vedra."

Gonzalez has volunteered with the St. Johns PAL Youth Wrestling and Beat The Streets: Jacksonville. He has coached numerous FHSAA state champions, state placers and qualifiers, and one thing he really wants to do at Ponte Vedra is create a youth wrestling program. He said he has reached out to the PVHS Alumni Association to pitch the idea of creating a program that would train students from kindergarten through eighth grade.

"We really need to start them young," he said. "Having that extra experience, they'll be very competitive by the time they get to high school. It also teaches good technique, which translates to other sports like football."



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Fred Funk escorts Jacksonville resident to doctor as part of Stryker campaign

By Jon Blauvelt

PGA Tour Champions golfer and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Fred Funk recently spent a day with the winner of Stryker's "Get on the Bus" contest in Jacksonville promoting the importance of joint health.

Taking place Tuesday, July 17, Funk picked up Jacksonville resident and contest winner Carol Simpson in a Stryker-branded bus and escorted her on a few stops around town, including her doctor's office to address her joint pain. Simpson has suffered from joint pain for years but avoided visiting an orthopaedic surgeon to discuss her options.

"A lot of people go through a lot of pain and keep putting things off," Funk said. "She's (Simpson) ready. She's been through a lot of alternative stuff, and she's pretty much ready for her knee. She just wants to get a little more information and become more excited about it than scared about it."

Funk has become an ambassador for Stryker — a medical technology company — after he too struggled with joint pain during his playing career, which forced him



Photo courtesy of Ketchum Sports & Entertainment

PGA Tour Champions golfer and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Fred Funk stands alongside Carol Simpson, who was the winner of Stryker's "Get on the Bus" contest in Jacksonville.

to have his knee replaced in 2009.

"You can get your life back," Funk said. "That's the big message. ... You don't need to suffer with what they have out there now."

The "Get on the Bus" contest encouraged 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 and learn about joint health. Funk is partnering with Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerome Bettis on the initiative. Bettis hosted a similar contest in Pittsburgh, and both athletes will come together in August to spend a day with the contest winner in New Jersey.

"I think it's a great campaign," Funk said. "It's just trying to convince people to go see the doctor."

Amateur

Continued from 43

Teeing off in Sunday's final grouping at 9:57 a.m., Roche, Anthony and Lobb would only get in two-plus holes before the sirens blew at 10:30 a.m. Play resumed at noon, only to have more lightning in the area pull the players off the course 15 minutes later. With a bleak forecast for the rest of the afternoon, tournament officials cancelled the championship at 2 p.m. and gathered all contestants, family, friends and officials in the clubhouse to honor the tournament's 57th champion, dating back to 1962.

The championship featured 78 entries, 15 of which were from outside JAGA's Northeast Florida footprint, with Texas, Illinois, Indiana and North and South Carolina represented, as well as Orlando and other cities in the southern part of Florida. Complete Jacksonville Amateur results may be found at jax.bluegolf.com or via www.jaxareagolf.org.

The 2019 Amateur will be contested at Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach next July.

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THEME: AT THE SUPERMARKET

ACROSS

- Sans-____, font option
- Fly hangout?
- Toothy tool
- Lickety-split
- Lennon's wife
- Jolly one
- Climber's spike
- FEMA provisions, e.g.
- Early anesthetic
- *Laser or LED at the supermarket register
- *Advantageous grocery display
- Male or female
- Show off
- Blue
- *Type of a grocer-ant
- Same as torsi
- Kind of sandwich
- Transversus abdominis location
- "The Voice" concern
- Sunrise in Spain
- Civil wrongs
- ____ d'Ivoire
- Tarzan's swing
- Fork prong
- Shaped like Humpty Dumpty
- Brain teaser
- Viper's tooth
- Santa's helper
- Miniature whirl-pool

- Miner's bounty
- *Salad bar ____ guard
- *Perimeter aisle at the market
- Make dim
- Make a pigeon sound
- Corruptible
- Rotary files
- *Supermarket circulars
- Same as #45 down
- Ke\$ha's 2012 hit
- Thus far
- #28 Across purchase

DOWN

- Depletes
- Colossal
- "Pro" follower
- Desktop pictures
- Tiny fox with large ears
- Wild swine
- American cuckoo
- Barrel racing meet
- Campus military org.
- Turkish honorific
- What hoarders do
- Make a mistake
- Cow's favorite grass?
- Dead-on
- Peanut isn't this
- Scare stiff
- *Weights and Measures inspector's concern

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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.

- Make or break bet
- Persian Gulf port
- *Sales per square ____
- Puerto ____
- Range in the kitchen
- Based on No. 8
- * ____ life
- *"More ____ for your buck!"
- Tallest volcano in Europe
- Mister in Madrid
- Arabian chieftains
- Wood-shaping
- tool
- Show submission
- Tooth trouble
- Organ swelling
- Undesirable location
- Infamous Roman
- Garner wages
- Well-mannered Emily
- *U in SKU
- *Grocery carrier
- Additional
- British public service broadcaster
- Keats' poem

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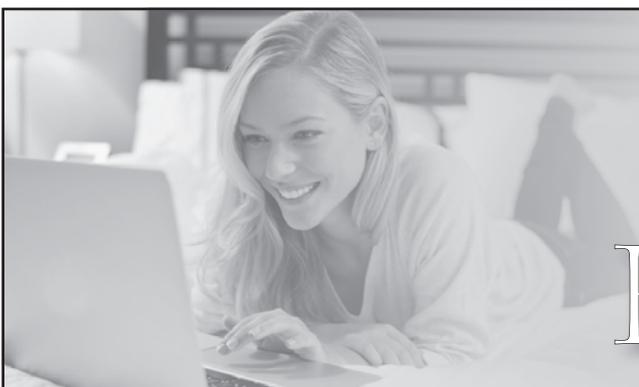
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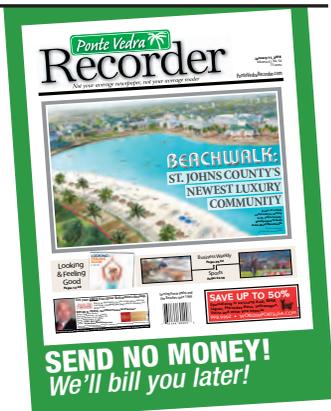
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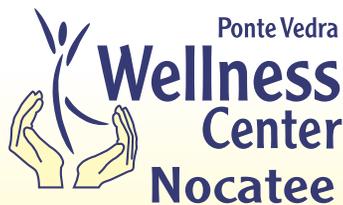
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