

**September 20, 2018** Volume 47, No. 89 75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com

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On a Mission: First Coast Nonprofits

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One of Us

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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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#### 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.

@ pure barre

# up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.

Six readers correctly identified last

week's photo as the Pure Barre sign in

Ponte Vedra Beach. The winner of the

random drawing was Joan Romano.

Congratulations, Joan — you may pick



#### **CAT OF THE WEEK**

**ADOPT A PET** 

My name is Chewy, and I am a 3-year-old male cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As a result, there are some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #44246



#### **DOG OF THE WEEK**

My name is Articus, and I am a 2-year-old male mix who was brought to the pet center as a stray. As I am a stray, there may be some traits that are unknown at the 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.

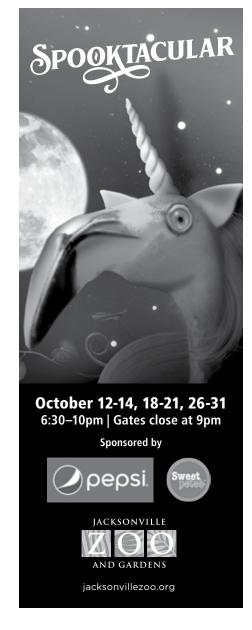
#### St. Johns County Pet Center

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**.

#### **PUZZLE SOLUTIONS** OER ARBOR M B A HETUP BATTLE SLAVERY SOLHEAL USAFACE BELONG NUDE MOMS RIGOR I C O N A L L E Y O R B I T D I R E EVEN N E E D E D N A N S L|I|N|C|O|L|N B|A|R|T|O|N LOOF PILAF 3 5 8 9 6 4 6 5 8 3 9 6 5 8 9 3 5 8 3 9 4 6 2 6 9 3 2 5 4 8 4 5 8 6 3 2 9 1 9 3 4 8 5 6

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

2 | 9 | 5





Extraordinary Views
Epping Forrest/ Riverfront

The only home that sits atop the bluff next to the exquisite DuPont Mansion, this home shares the same breathtaking views of the formal gardens, the marina, & the St. Johns river. Wonderful & livable floorplan takes advantage of the home's premier location.

4 bedrooms & 4.5 bathrooms \$1,295,000



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.



**Stunning Classic with Beach Access**Marshside, Off Ponte Vedra Blvd

Picturesque home in a charming neighborhood off Ponte Vedra Blvd. Large kitchen with granite countertops and island plumed for gas. Also features a downstairs master, study & game room. Access available to the Old Ponte Vedra Condos amenities. This home is the perfect backdrop for all of life's memories. **3 bedrooms & 2.5 bathrooms \$695.000** 



Ultimate Beach Retreat

Steps away from the ocean, this beach bungalow is the ideal space to call home or utilize as an investment property. Located in a highly desired neighborhood within walking distance of restaurants and shopping, this home is the perfect space to enjoy the quintessential beach lifestyle.

3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths \$775,000





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# PVB Branch Library to hold Halloween bash for teens

The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is hosting a Halloween event for all teens in grades 6-12 on Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

There will be a live DJ from McGee Entertainment, dancing,

pizza, sodas, candy and raffle prizes. Costumes are encouraged, but not required.



A truly awesome costume, however, will earn two raffle tickets instead of one.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. For more

information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit www.sjcpls.org.





# COLLECTION











#### HICKORY CREEK \$249,700

Rare find on private, wooded 1.2-acre lot in desirable community close to the Intracoastal & beach! This ranch-style home is partially fenced with a huge screened lanai. Features fresh paint inside & out, new carpet, & newer roof, HVAC, windows, & plumbing. MLS 952173

Patti Mohr | 904.813.4430 PattiMohr@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

#### JACKSONVILLE BEACH \$325,000

Pool home in great location in the heart of South Jacksonville Beach! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is located on a neighborhood lake with screened lanai & pool. While lovingly worn, this home has great potential for the right family to update & improve. MLS 956730

Murray Beard | 904.465.2784 MurrayBeard@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

#### **MAYPORT** \$349,000

Enjoy family living in Mayport Village, with great fishing & public boat ramp. Home sits on ¾ acre with large workshop, additional storage building, & large open building for equipment or a car. Occupancy 30 days after closing. MLS 952712

Thomas Chao | 904.226.3024 TChao@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

## COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE | \$432,000

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

#### WALKERS RIDGE \$525,000

Enjoy world-famous golf & private beach access from this desirable home in Sawgrass Country Club! Features 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, large living/dining room with built-in bar, updated kitchen with breakfast nook, & screened porch. Master bedroom overlooks backyard & has updated shower & spa tub. MLS 956096

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# Ken Burns visits Jacksonville for screening of his latest documentary on Mayo Clinic

#### By Jon Blauvelt

Ken Burns has devoted his 40-year career to telling some of America's most important stories, and he said he can't think of anything his team has created that is more quintessentially American than the story of the Mayo Clinic.

The documentary filmmaker, accompanied by his co-directors Erik and Chris Ewers, visited the First Coast last week for a screening of that very film, "The Mayo Clinic: Faith – Hope – Science," which is scheduled to air on PBS Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Held at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall last Thursday, Sept. 13, the screening showed six clips totaling 48 minutes of the two-hour documentary.

"It's really important to say this is one of the films that we've made as close to our heart as any other project," said Burns, whose work also includes "The Civil War, "Baseball" and "The Vietnam War," among others. "It's been, in every sense, a labor of love."

Featuring the voices of Tom Hanks, Sam Waterston, Blythe Danner and Josh Lucas and interviews with John McCain and the Dalai Lama, the film explores the Mayo Clinic's 150-year history, starting with the story of William Worrall Mayo, an English immigrant who began practicing medicine with his sons Will and Charlie in Rochester, Minnesota.

Together with the Sisters of Saint Francis, the documentary shows how they lay the foundation for a medical center that now treats over 1 million patients every year from 50 states and 150 countries, and employs 64,000 people in Rochester and at campuses in Jacksonville and Scottsdale, Arizona.

Throughout "The Mayo Clinic," Burns and the Ewers brothers weave in stories of patients who come to the Clinic for answers, and hope. Combined with the historical narrative, these testimonies demonstrate the almost mythical nature of the institution.

"They are the best hospital on earth, because they have these extraordinary values behind them" Burns said. "They have the history that is so improbable involving (the) Sisters of Saint Francis in Rochester, Minnesota. They've done everything right and been able to keep those values and been free all of the attendant stuff that has beset the others."

Erik Ewers said the inspiration for the documentary came from Burns, who one day ran into their editing room after a dinner with Mayo Clinic representatives and expressed his excitement.

"Oh, my god," Erik recounted Burns exclaiming. "This is going to be an amazing



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Erik Ewers, Julie Coffman, Ken Burns and Chris Ewers gather prior to the screening of "The Mayo Clinic: Faith – Hope – Science" at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall on Thursday, Sept. 13. Burns and the Ewers brothers directed the documentary, while Coffman produced it.



Film co-director Erik Ewers (right) speaks with attendees of the screening.



**Chris Ewers and Corey Brady** 

film. It's got religion in it, and it's about faith. It's about hope."

Erik said Burns then ran back out of the studio, and just like that, the team had two-thirds of the title for the film.

"The Mayo Clinic: Faith – Hope – Science" has been in production for three years. Burns and company traveled to Rochester, Jacksonville and Scottsdale to meet with surgeons, physicians, nurses, employees and patients, and to document operations ranging from brain surgery to open heart surgery and everything in between.

"Fascinating doesn't even begin to

describe it," Chris Ewers said. "None of us had ever been in the operating theater in that manner. ... We expected it to be a very high-stress, very dramatic environment. In fact, from day one, what we realized is it's a beautifully choregraphed ballet where everything is serene."

The Mayo Clinic provided the filmmaking team with full access to its archives and people, acknowledging that they wouldn't have any editorial control over the project.

"They knew going in, because of public broadcasting, that there was no way that they could influence the content and yet they were looking to open up everything to us, unafraid of what we might find," Burns said. "The thing that we learned most of all about the Mayo Clinic is this incredible culture of collaboration that comes from a deeply held, humanistic place. These are people on the front line of compassion and care, not only in the medical field, but in our own lives."

Burns also acknowledged that the documentary raises questions about today's current healthcare system in the United States.

# 12 constitutional amendments to appear on Florida ballots

Ponte Vedra voters urged to stay informed

#### By Samantha Logue

Ponte Vedra residents were given a crash course in Florida's constitutional

amendment process last Monday, Sept. 10 at a meeting of the Ponte Vedra Beaches Coalition. With a presentation outlining this year's proposed amendments and their various "Pathways to the Ballot," Flagler College Director of Foundation and Government Relations Beth Sweeny was on hand to walk voters through the potential

ramifications of each one.

Noting that there are a total of 12 constitutional amendments to consider at the ballot box on Nov. 6, Sweeny encouraged attendees to be prepared, warning, "It's going to be a long ballot this year."

**AMENDMENTS** continues on Page 7



Mayo Clinic President and CEO Gianrico Farrugia with his wife Geraldine, Una Jackman and Pat Noseworthy gather at the screening of "The Mayo Clinic: Faith – Hope – Science" at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall on Thursday, Sept. 13.

#### Burns

Continued from 4

"We're not going into the healthcare debate," Burns said. "But obviously, if you see someone who does it the best in the world, it makes you think, what are we doing? Why has this debate been hijacked by the politicians? Why aren't we saying, 'We like that, why can't we do more of that?' It's literally that simple."

In addition to the initial broadcast on Sept. 25, the documentary will be aired for a repeat broadcast the following day on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 10 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (check local listings).

Although viewers may initially see "The Mayo Clinic" as a departure from Burns' other work, the acclaimed filmmaker said the documentary weaves into the same fabric of his long list of stories.

"In some ways, we've made the same film over and over again," Burns said. "It's asking a question about who are we. 'The Mayo Clinic' answers it in one way. 'The



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Ken Burns meets with attendees of the screening at a VIP reception.

Vietnam War' answers it in another. 'The Roosevelts,' the 'Brooklyn Bridge,' the 'Statue of Liberty,' 'Civil War,' they all answer it in a different kind of way. But maybe not even answer it but deepen the question. It's a pursuit of who we are."

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We should all support the ongoing effort to renourish our beaches.

There is currently a citizenled group that has been effective in organizing residents to get this process started and funded. Many have seen the Save our Beaches signs along Ponte Vedra Boulevard with the proposed MSTU. The Save PVB Group should be applauded for their efforts.

We all enjoy the beach and the sad fact is we have experienced two near misses with past storms Mathew and Irma. Even though we did not take a direct hit, our beaches have been severely eroded. Can you imagine if Florence, which just impacted the coast of North Carolina, had instead dropped a little south? Shear devastation.

This effort should be supported, and it should also be the No. 1 priority of our county. County staff must continue to lobby our state to help us get sand put back on the beach. I can see a time coming soon where we will all have to become involved with the effort, and I mean everyone.

If another storm even comes close to our shoreline in the future, and we do not have additional sand on the beach, the water is going to rise over the dunes and affect us all. Streets and homes will flood. We need the beach to be renourished with an ongoing program similar to other counties, and we must rely on our own county to help us with this.

I do applaud and support our Ponte Vedra Boulevard residents who have spearheaded this effort and I also encourage others to do the same.

#### **Gary Jurenovich,**

Ponte Vedra Beach

#### CORRECTION

In the Sept. 13, 2018 edition of the Ponte Vedra Recorder, a direct quote from Damon Douglas of the St. Johns County Public Works Department was printed that stated the projected assessment for a potential Ponte Vedra Beach MSTU would be 6 mills. The Recorder has since received confirmation from Douglas that the correct estimate is 0.6 mills.

Brette Reiman is the founder of Hugs Across the County, an all-volunteer, 501c3 nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance to St. Johns County children in-need.

# Brette Reiman

#### Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

Philadelphia will always be in my heart (fly Eagles fly and, of course, go Jags!). I grew up in the suburbs there, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. I worked in public relations consulting in Washington, D.C., where I met my husband of 26 years, Dan. After many moves, we landed in Ponte Vedra in 2002, where our three kids attended and were very active in the public schools. Twins Jake (Bucknell University graduate program) and Kylie (Teach for America) are, coincidentally, both back in Pennsylvania. Our youngest, Tess, is a sophomore at Davidson College, where she plays lacrosse. After being very involved with the kids' schools and sports teams, I started Hugs Across the County, an all-volunteer, 501c3 nonprofit in 2010.

#### What's the story of Hugs Across the County? How did it form?

As our kids grew older, a small group of women volunteered at Webster Elementary, a Title 1 school in St. Augustine. Each week, we saw firsthand the poverty and homelessness that so many local kids face. Students were hungry, they had shoes that were two sizes too small (literally) and they lacked school supplies. I formed Hugs Across the County to raise awareness of the overwhelming needs of hundreds of children throughout St. Johns County, and also to help provide basic necessities to these sweet kids. Today, we are a "tiny but mighty" group of volunteers. Sandy Calvin, Holly Ross and I are all volunteer officers. Sandy and Holly are incredible; I am always amazed by the work they put in every week. We all look forward to Stephanie Cills joining soon! Our small volunteer group is humbled by the support from hundreds of others — from second graders to high school students to adults — whenever we identify a need.

Our mission is to support children in-need throughout St. Johns County. We provide clothing, toiletries, food, school supplies, reading books and more to children recommended by St. Johns County school counselors and homeless liaisons. We also receive referrals from the Betty Griffin Center, St Augustine Youth Services (SAYS) and the Homeless Coalition. We are proud to support all of their incredible efforts in our community.

#### Do you have any current or upcoming initiatives vou'd like to share?

Our programs run year-round!

Clothing: Hugs works year-round to provide Clothing Care Packages to students referred by counselors. We provide these packages (clothing, undies, shoes, toiletries) to hundreds of students in-need at just about every school in St. Johns County. Our clothing storage is generously sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach.

**Food:** Food insecurity is real in St. Johns County. We just started to stock school-based food pantries with kid-friendly food items at six local schools. We are also gearing up for our No Hungry Holidays winter break food program, which we hope supplements the incredible initiatives managed by The Furyk Foundation and Blessings in a Backpack.

**Diverse books:** We are excited to launch a new program to help provide more books featuring diverse main characters to our Title 1 schools.

**Mentors/classroom volunteers:** We work year-round to help steer volunteers to much-needed mentoring and classroom volunteer positions at schools throughout the county.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

#### How can people become involved with the nonprofit?

I like to call Hugs a "community of volunteers" rather than a nonprofit organization, and we welcome anyone who wants to help local kids in-need. We have been so fortunate to receive support from the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, THE PLAYERS Championship, the Ponte Vedra Woman's Club, the Ponte Vedra Women's Civic Alliance, Advanced Disposal, Art Company, Amy's Turn and more. We have also been fortunate to partner with incredible students, staff and families from local schools. They all have been so huge-hearted in helping us collect donations that go directly to local kids.

We enjoy brainstorming with potential volunteers about their interests — whether it's helping sort clothing donations, organizing a community food drive or mentoring a child — and then choosing the opportunity that best meets their volunteer "wish list."

Readers can email info@stjohnshugs.org or follow us on social media (Facebook: Hugs Across the County or Instagram: stjohnshugs) for volunteer ideas.

#### What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Vedra Beach?

Like everyone here, I love Ponte Vedra Beach because it's truly one of the most beautiful spots in the world. It's the people who make Ponte Vedra really special. I'm very fortunate because in the work I do with Hugs, I get to meet hundreds of very kind-hearted "Ponte Vedrans." People here really care about each other, and about so many beyond our little beach town.

#### What do you like to do in your free time?

I am definitely a homebody, and enjoy spending time with my husband, kids and dear friends. My favorite things to do are visiting our kids and family, international travel and workouts with X Factor Fitness.

**Edited by Jon Blauvelt** 

About Dr. Camarda

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marda has been

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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-win-

ning 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.

Chairman Jeff

## **Amendments**

One of the more controversial amendments on the ballot this year is Amendment 6, which, if passed, would establish additional constitutional rights — known collectively as Marsy's Law — for the victims of crime, as well as increase the retirement age for judges to 75 and require them to independently interpret statutes, rather than deferring to administrative agencies. Placed on the ballot by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission, the amendment faced two legal challenges (eventually combined into one) over concerns regarding both the ballot summary's language and subject matter.

"There are those who believe that the amendment places too much emphasis on the rights of the victim, as opposed to the rights of the (accused) — that it swings too far towards the rights of the victim," Sweeny explained.

Although the amendment was previously ordered removed from the ballot by Leon County Circuit Judge Karen Gievers, however, that decision was later reversed by the Florida Supreme

Also on this year's ballot are two items that were placed there via citizen initiative — a method that, according to Sweeny, has a high rate of success.

"From its inception in 1976, there have been 34 amendments on the ballot initiated by citizens and only seven of them were rejected by voters," she said. "Usually something that's placed on the ballot by citizens ... usually these have a higher percentage passing rate than other amendments.'

The first of those two items, Amendment 3, would give Floridians the exclusive right to authorize casino gambling within the state — a power that currently rests with the legislature. The second item, Amendment 4, would restore the voting rights of convicted felons following the completion of all terms of their sentence, with the exclusion of those convicted of murder or sexual offenses (unless expressly approved by a vote of the governor and cabinet).

Other proposed constitutional changes include: increasing the maximum homestead property tax exemption to \$75,000 for homes valued between \$100,000 and \$125,000; the requirement of a supermajority vote of each house of the legislature in order to impose, authorize or raise state taxes or fees; granting death benefits to qualifying survivors of certain first responders and military members who die in the course of duty; the prohibition of offshore oil and gas drilling, as well as vaping in enclosed indoor workplaces; and more.

While 12 amendments have been approved for the 2018 general election ballot, an additional amendment

was originally slated to appear there as well: Amendment 8. The amendment, which proposed the imposition of an eight-year term limit for school board members and the requirement of the legislature to provide for the promotion of civic literacy in public schools, also would have authorized state control over the creation of charter schools, rather than school boards. Following a legal challenge from the League of Women Voters of Florida, however. Amendment 8 was ordered stricken from the ballot by Leon County Circuit Judge John Cooper in August, and after being appealed by the state, that decision was eventually upheld by the Florida Supreme Court on Sept. 7.

To view the full list of this year's proposed constitutional amendments, visit the Florida Department of State website at dos.myflorida.com/elections/lawsrules/constitutional-amendments.



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#### Dr. Camarda's Weekly Wealth Nugget **ANNUITIES INVESTMENT ADVICE**

Camarda does not typically recommend annuities. In most of the cases we've seen, the products are very expensive, and the high, often hidden costs, on top of very high taxation, can severely stunt wealth growth. Because annuities are often marketed heavily, and because they can be so hard to understand, you may want to

- Annuities are some of the most complicated, poorly understood "investment" products on the market. These are actually life insurance policies that can pay high commissions to salespeople who are often not required to put your interests first.
- Annuities are taxed at an investor's highest rates. They don't qualify for the lower capital gains rates, and capital gains are not forgiven at death. Since there is no "step up," much more estate wealth can be lost to taxes than other investments like mutual funds, stocks, real estate, and so on.
- Annuities are sometimes pushed even when they are not the best solution, especially when misleading claims of "no fees or commissions" or "I'm paid directly by the company" may hide the real cost and motives for high commission products.
- Many investors who buy annuities don't really understand them, don't need them, pay far too much for
- them, and ultimately may come to regret investing in them.

  Because of their life insurance nature, annuities can offer valuable features but these features are only worth paying for if you need them, and, depending on the annuity, can come at extremely high tax and
- Commissions, product costs, and tax treatment are often not easy to find for consumers or well explained
- by salespeople! which can make smart shopping and cost comparisons nearly impossible. With lots of marketing hype and high commission sales pressure out there, it can be too easy to make the wrong decision – a decision you could feel stuck with for a long, long time.

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# DeSantis speaks at Trump Club 9/11 tribute

GOP gubernatorial nominee says Gillum would 'make Florida Venezuela'

#### By Samantha Logue

Following his recent resignation from Congress, Republican Florida gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis made an appearance at a meeting of the Trump Club of St. Johns County last Tuesday, Sept. 11 to participate in the group's tribute to the victims of the 9/11 terror attacks.

The tribute, which took place at the Northeast Florida Regional Airport Conference Center in St. Augustine, attracted conservatives from all over St. Johns County who support the Trump Club's overall mission to help implement President Donald Trump's agenda locally and nationally through the election of pro-Trump candidates.

One of several speakers at the event, DeSantis recounted the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, praising the courage of the passengers of United Airlines Flight 93 and the first responders — some of whom were in attendance — who rushed toward the danger that day, risking their own lives for the sake of others.

"As bad as (9/11) was because of the death and destruction, it did reveal a lot of great things about the American character," he said. "When you have the first responders moving into the burning towers, the people who stormed in to help save people in the Pentagon and then those passengers on Flight 93 — to bring that plane down knowing they were sowing the seeds of their own demise, but saving probably



Photo by Samantha Logue

Republican gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis speaks at the Trump Club of St. Johns County's tribute to the victims of the 9/11 terror attacks.

thousands of others — that is really what America is all about, that spirit."

Contrasting that spirit against that of those behind the attacks, DeSantis stated, "As bad as the attack was, and it was the worst attack certainly since Pearl Harbor, it was really not even scratching the surface of what the enemy would be willing to do. Sept. 11 was only limited by their capacity, not by their will. They would kill millions

and millions of people if they could, without even blinking an eye."

DeSantis, who has been formally endorsed by the president, praised Trump's efforts to recognize and fight back against such terrorism, presenting himself as an ally to the Trump Administration in Florida while positioning his Democratic opponent, Andrew Gillum, as a far-left extremist seeking to thwart the president's agenda.

"My vision would be to make Florida even better," DeSantis said. "My opponent's vision is to make Florida Venezuela, and that is not going to work."

DeSantis suggested that the former Tallahassee mayor would try to not only raise taxes, but potentially even implement a state income tax if elected governor.

**DESANTIS** continues on **Page 9** 

# Journalist Lara Logan to speak in Jacksonville Oct. 17 as part of Florida Forum Speaker Series



Photo courtesy of Clockwork Marketing **Journalist Lara Logan** 

The Florida Forum Speaker Series, produced by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, will welcome veteran journalist Lara Logan on Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Jacksonville.

Named a CBS News chief foreign correspondent in 2006 and chief foreign affairs correspondent in 2008, Logan has made notable contributions to the "60 Minutes" news segment, such as her profile of Medal of Honor winner Salvatore Giunta, an interview with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf after the assassination of Benazir Bhutto and other reports from Afghanistan highlighting the War on Terror.

In 2010, Logan's report from the Af-

ghan battlefield, "A Relentless Enemy," earned her electronic journalism's highest award, a DuPont – Columbia University Silver Baton. In 2011, while reporting on the revolution in Tahrir Square in Egypt, Logan was mobbed, beaten and sexually assaulted. She later broke her silence about the brutal attack to draw attention to the plight of men and women in war zones and the difficulty female journalists covering war zones encounter. Throughout her career, Logan has received numerous awards and recognitions for her work.

Series subscriptions for all three Forum speakers are now available for purchase. Logan will open the Forum on Oct. 17, followed by renowned actor, director, writer and producer Bryan Cranston on Jan. 28 and NFL Super Bowl champion

and Hall of Famer Tony Dungy on March 27. Subscriptions begin at \$225 each for general seating; \$300 each for preferred seating; \$850 for two reserved Bronze seating tickets; \$2,125 for two reserved Silver seating tickets and invitations to the private receptions honoring the speakers; and \$4,250 for four reserved Gold seating tickets with private reception invitations. Patrons under age 30 may purchase Young Subscribers tickets for \$150 each.

Funds raised from The Florida Forum benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital of Jacksonville. The series is presented by Wells Fargo, Florida Blue and Landstar and other supporters of The Women's Board. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit womensboardwolfsonchildrenshospital.com.



Photo by Samantha Loque

Trump Club Founder and President Diane Scherff stands with Noah Kowieski, regional field director for the Republican Party of Florida.

#### **DeSantis**

Further, pointing to Tallahassee's high crime rate, DeSantis added that he found Gillum's leadership record to be concerning, contending, "He cannot govern his own city. There is no way that he could be governing the entire state of Florida."

Emphasizing the "high stakes" of this year's election, DeSantis encouraged those in attendance to get out the vote. promising to be the leader Florida needs.

"Leadership means doing the right thing when it's not easy," he said. "Sometimes you've got to take the political road less traveled, but I think that is the way you're able to accomplish big things. I will be somebody that will do that, and I think if you have the courage to lead, you can achieve big things for the state."

The Trump Club of St. Johns County currently has over 200 members. The Club's next meeting is Monday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Northeast Florida Regional Airport Conference Center.

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#### Thursday, Sept. 20

#### **Yoga for Survivors**

The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class Sept. 20 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.

#### **Grief Support Group**

St. Paul's Catholic Church will host a Grief Support Group on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Family Life Center, located at 578 1st Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. For more information, contact Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.

#### **2nd Infantry Divison Reunion**

Veterans of the U.S. Army's renowned 2nd Infantry Division, The Warriors, will hold their 97th Annual Reunion at the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel in Jacksonville from Sept. 19 through 23. The reunion will be conducted by the division's veterans' organization, the Second Indianhead Division Association. Highlights will include an Early Bird Dinner with keynote speaker Colonel Karen Lloyd, a Muster Dinner with keynote speaker Colonel David Hunt, a grand banquet and more. To attend, contact Bob Haynes at (224) 225-1202, email 2idahq@comcast.net or visit www.2ida.org.

#### **Ask the Expert: Patty Carroscia**

Join certified Healing Touch practitioner, Patty Carroscia, RN, HN-BC, Sept. 20 at 10:30 a.m. as she explains the basics of the relaxing and nurturing adjunct therapy that supports the body's natural ability to heal. This event will take place at the Mandarin Y Healthy Living Center, located at 10415 San Jose Blvd. in Jacksonville.

#### **Megan Wall presentation**

Megan Wall will talk about the affordability of having a spouse in a local nursing home Sept. 20 at 11 a.m. This will be held at THE PLAYERS Community Center in Ponte Vedra Beach.

#### Friday, Sept. 21

#### 'Between Truth and Illusion' exhibition

The general public is invited to an exhibition, entitled "Between Truth and Illusion," in the Scene Room at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra, located at 50 Executive Way. The exhibit is presented by the Society of Mixed Media Arts (SoMMA). It will run through Sept. 22.

#### First Coast Newcomers Club games day

First Coast Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida will host a games day event featuring lunch and board games Sept. 21 at 1:30 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to bring snacks. This event is free and open to the public. For venue information, call (904) 829-0643.

#### **Steins and Vines**

The Young Philanthropists of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville will present Steins and Vines Sept. 21 from 7 to 10 p.m at Intuition Ale Works, located at 929 E. Bay St. in Jacksonville. General admission costs \$35 and VIP admission costs \$50. All proceeds will support the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The event will feature beer, food, wine, live music, raffles and more. For tickets and additional information, visit www.rmhcjacksonville.org.

#### 'Cabaret' at the Limelight Theatre

This musical is playing on the main stage at the Limelight Theatre Sept. 21 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$26 for general admission, \$25 for seniors and \$20 for students and military. The Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave. in St. Augustine. For more information, visit www.limelight-theatre.org.

#### **Abstract Painting with Anna Miller**

Join the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach Sept. 21 at 9:30 a.m. for Abstract Painting with Anna Miller. Through the understanding of principles of design, color theory, composition and expression through visual language, students will start a process of a discovery of abstract, non-representational art while exploring different techniques and methods using oil and acrylic paints.

#### Saturday, Sept. 22

#### 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.

#### **Visiting Theologian Weekend**

Palms Presbyterian Church will host its annual Visiting Theologian Weekend Sept. 22-23 featuring Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes, a biblical scholar with a Ph. D in biblical studies from Princeton Theological Seminary. Elnes is also a leading articulator of Convergence Christianity and Senior Minister of Countryside Community Church in Omaha, Nebraska. His two-part workshop will be offered Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. to noon and Sept. 23 from 9:40 to 10:40 a.m. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 3rd St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.

#### Gift of Life Sickle Cell Blood Drive

LifeSouth will co-host the Gift of Life Sickle Cell Blood Drive Sept. 22 at The Cookbook Restaurant from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will encourage the community to learn more about sickle cell and the role blood donors play in treating the disorder.

#### University of Florida alumni scholarship fundraiser

The University of Florida's Association of Black Alumni (ABA) Jacksonville chapter will host its first fundraiser Sept. 22 from 9 to 11 a.m. to benefit local students wanting to attend the university. To be held at Sheraton Hotel Jacksonville, located at 10605 Dearwood Park Blvd., all proceeds from the event will go to fund scholarships for high school students in Jacksonville looking to attend UF in 2019. Tickets cost \$35. This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Herman Felton Jr., who will deliver a presentation entitled "Rocking the Boat: How Disruption Effects Change Without Making Trouble." For more information, email ufabajax@gmail.com.

#### Sunday, Sept. 23

#### 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.

#### '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 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.

#### **Sing Out Loud Festival**

The Sing Out Loud Music Festival, one of Florida's largest free music festivals taking place over the course of four weekends in St. Augustine, features more than 200 performers and 19 participating venues. Visit www.singoutloudfestival.com for venue information and more.

#### **Salt Air Farmers Market**

The Salt Air Farmers Market will feature homegrown produce, local art and more. This event will take place Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9505 Oceanshore Blvd. in St. Augustine. For more information, visit www.saltairfarmersmarket.com.

#### Taste of the Beach

The Taste of the Beach event returns from noon to 5 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Pavilion at the St. Johns County Pier Park, located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. The event is hosted by the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association to benefit the Betty Griffin Center, a nonprofit agency providing shelter, counseling and other programs to help victims of domestic violence and their children.





#### Monday, Sept. 24

#### Tuesday, Sept. 25

#### Thursday, Sept. 27

#### **Senior Pilates**

Enjoy this Senior Pilates class Mondays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon at River House, located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine. Admission costs \$4 for members or \$5 for non-members. Students will need to bring a yoga mat and straps. Call (904) 209-3655 to register. Pilates is a form of exercise that results in an improved core of stability, flexibility, strength and energy.

#### **MOSH Mondays**

The Museum of Science and History's MOSH Mondays feature discounts including buyone-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.

#### **Heather Quick at Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library**

Heather Ouick, CEO of Florida Women's Law Group, family law and estate planning for women, will speak at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. The talk is entitled "Five Things All Women Need to do to Protect Their Legacy and Financial Future Through Estate Planning." Quick has brought change benefiting women in Jacksonville throughout her career. The Ponte Vedra Beach Library is located at 101 Library Blvd.

#### 'The House with a Clock on its Walls' at IMAX Theater

Based on the beloved children's classic written by John Bellairs and illustrated by Edward Gorey, this film features a magical adventure telling the tale of 10-year-old Lewis who goes to live with his uncle in a creaky old house with a mysterious tick-tocking heart. This film is showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame Sept. 24. For more information on showtimes, visit www.worldgolfimax.com.

#### **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 artfullyinspired 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.

#### **EG Kight performance**

The Beaches Museum and Lazzara Family Foundation will host EG Kight at the Beaches Museum Chapel Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. Known locally as the "Songbird of Georgia," Kight has developed a sound that blends blues, country, Americana, southern rock, jazz, gospel and funk. Check-in and refreshments will begin at 6 p.m. Individual tickets cost \$25 in advance. \$30 day of the show. For more details or to purchase tickets, call (904) 241-5657 or visit www.beachesmuseum.org.

#### Prenatal yoga

Prenatal and postnatal yoga is designed to help women cope with the changing needs of their body before and after pregnancy and birth. The public is invited Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. to share individual experiences with other women and gain empowerment through yoga, meditation and guided visualization. This approach is gentle and safe for women in all stages of pregnancy. and once recovered from birth, but prior approval from a healthcare provider is advised. This event will take place at the Y Healthy Living Center, located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach

#### The Retirement Continuum

To be held Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the UNF Adam W. Herbert University Center, this comprehensive course will address the ongoing process that includes proper preparation for living in retirement successfully. The instructors will also address the financial issues affecting retirement and the life planning challenges retirees face, which will ultimately determine their quality of life. The University Center is located at 12000 Alumni Drive in Jacksonville.

#### **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 Reach Email Lucy Reep at lucyreep@ gmail.com for additional information.

Wednesday, Sept. 26

#### Yoga at the church

Grab a mat and enjoy a weekly yoga session at St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. All ages and skill levels are welcome. St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church is located at 465 11th Ave. N. in Jacksonville. Call (904) 249-4091 Ext. 103 for more information.

#### 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.

#### **Eucharist**

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church will host a eucharist Sept. 26 at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 465 11 Ave. N. in Jacksonville. For more information, call (904) 249-4091 ext. 103.

#### **Ponte Vedra Beach Library** semi-annual book sale

The Ponte Vedra Beach Library will host a semiannual book sale Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Interested attendees can also sign up to become a member of the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library at the door. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. The book sale will continue Sept. 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### **Wellness Fair**

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center will host a Wellness Fair Sept. 27 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the First Atlantic Bank building, located at 100 Corridor Road S. in Ponte Vedra Beach. In addition to a party offering food and music, this year's Wellness Fair will feature a variety of local wellness and health care providers. Each wellness table will offer a complimentary item, service or special offer to those in attendance. For more information, call (904) 273-2691.

#### **Ponte Vedra High School** PTO discussion panel

The Ponte Vedra High School PTO will host a discussion panel Sept. 27 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the PVHS Auditorium. The panel will give parents insight into how teenagers think. Eden Kendall of 'River City Live' will lead the panel, Ponte Vedra High School is located at 460 Davis Park Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.

#### **First Coast Card Club meeting**

The First Coast Card Club will host a meeting at the Anastasia Island Library Sept. 27 at noon. The library is located at 124 Sea Grove Main St. in St. Augustine Beach. Contact (904) 829-0643 for more information.

#### **Christ Episcopal Church September** workshop

This workshop, entitled "All About You: Your Career & Your Personality Profile," will take place Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to noon at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach. This presentation will be hosted by Dr. Priscilla Berry.

#### **Louie Anderson at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall**

Louie Anderson will perform Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m. (gates open at 6:30 p.m.) at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, located at 1050 A1A N. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.

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.

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# Friends OF THE LIBRARY BONTE VEDRA BEACH BOOK SALE

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Thurs. and Fri., Sept. 27th & 28th • 10:00am-5:30pm

#### BAG DAY ON SEPT. 29TH • 10:00AM-4:00PM

Seymour's book store is located inside the Ponte Vedra Library, 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach

Rev. Washington



A line forms outside a cocktail booth at the North Beach Kick-Off to Golf event in Neptune Beach on Monday, Sept. 17.



# Web.com Tour Championship festivities kick off with live music, drinks at Beaches Town Center

The Web.com Tour Championship festivities kicked off Monday, Sept. 17 with the North Beach Kick-Off to Golf event at the Beaches Town Center in Neptune Beach.

The event featured live music from Bonnie Blue and Mama Blue, an epicurean food village, a craft beer garden and craft cocktails. The food village included Hawkers Asian Street Fare, North Beach Fish Camp, Valley Smoke BBQ, Ocean 60, Mezza and Homespun Kitchen. Beer was provided by Champion, premium wines came from Breakthrough Beverage and craft cocktails were made by St. Augustine Distillery.

Sponsors of the event included St. Augustine Distillery, Skyway Capital Markets, Tom Bush BMW, Pivot CPAs and Baptist Health.

Action at the Web.com Tour Championship kicks off Thursday, Sept. 20 and will continue until Sunday, Sept. 23 at Atlantic Beach Country Club.



Mama Blue performs on stage at the North Beach Kick-Off to Golf event in Neptune Beach.



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# to discuss Faith, Race and LGBT during UNF Coming Out Week As part of Coming Out Week, the Uni-

versity of North Florida's LGBT Resource Center will host "Faith, Race and LGBT: A Conversation with Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington" at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 10. The event will be held in the Adam W. Herbert University Center in Building 43 in the Board of Trustees Room (Room

Faith communities and LGBTQ people have a troubled history in America that some may characterize with distrust and shame. During his discussion, Washington, associate minister at Unity Fellowship Church in Baltimore, will offer timely insight into the harms, joys and community-building efforts connected to these challenges. He'll also discuss the current state of affairs within the community as well as how current perspectives on race and culture impact the dynamic.

Following the presentation, Washington will lead a question and answer session about faith, race and LGBTQ communities. A reception will take place at 6 p.m. prior to the lecture, which is free and open to the

Washington has served as an educator, administrator and consultant in higher education for over 30 years. He's the president of both the Social Justice Training Institute and Washington Consulting Group, a multicultural organizational development firm. Washington is also president of the American College Personnel Association and serves on the boards of Many Voices: A Black Church Movement for LGBT individuals, Campus Pride and Beyond Diversity.

Previously, he served as visiting assistant professor of religion and social ethics at Winston Salem State University. He earned a doctorate degree in college student development from the University of Maryland College Park and a Master of Divinity from Howard University School of Divinity.

This event is sponsored by the UNF LGBT Resource Center and co-sponsored by the UNF Interfaith Center. Generous support from the LGBT Community Fund for Northeast Florida makes this program possible. For more information about this event, contact Kaitlin Legg, LGBT Center director, at k.legg@unf.edu.



# Palms Presbyterian to hold workshop exploring race, class, power and privilege

Palms Presbyterian Church is inviting all people to "Seeing Each Other Through the Lens of Race, Class, Power and Privilege," an interactive and experiential workshop that will take place Friday, Oct. 12 and Saturday, Oct. 13 at the church's Patten Hall, located at 3410 Third Street S. in Jacksonville Beach.

The workshop explores power, privilege, race, racism, class, internalized racial oppression and next steps. This 12-hour experience held over two days includes community building, small group engagement and a thoughtful exploration of sensitive yet important topics. The workshop is limited to 30 participants. All are welcome in the community; you do not need to be a dis-

ciple of Palms. Twelve spaces are reserved especially for Palms' disciples, however.

This program will be presented and facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Angela Shepherd, rector of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Atlanta, and the Rev. Deacon. Lauren Welch, deacon for mission at Episcopal Diocese of Maryland in Baltimore.

Shepherd and Welch have extensive experience presenting this workshop to faith communities, as well as in secular settings. They have been actively involved in the formation and work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is an ongoing commission focused on

enhancing efforts to eradicate racism and its residual impact. The work of Shepherd, Welch and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is referenced in detail by Jennifer Harvey, Ph.D., in her book "Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation."

The workshop will take place Oct. 12 from 5 to 9 p.m., with dinner provided in the Patten Hall. The program will continue Oct. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with continental breakfast and lunch provided in the Patten Hall. Attendance is required at both sessions to participate. Contact Elizabeth Gainer at egainer@gainercounseling.com to register. Registration closes Friday, Oct. 5.

## Upcoming events at Beth El The Beaches Synagogue

Several events are taking place at Beth El The Beaches Synagogue this coming fall. They are as follows:

- Adult Education at Beth El: A new two-part series is beginning soon on death. The discussion is led by Rabbi Matuson.
- Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. Death Part 1 Jewish Be-
- Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. Death Part 2 Customs and Rituals
- Tai Chi/Qigong with Sheri Nicholson: Tai chi for health and wellness.
  - Wednesdays Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
  - Everyone is welcome to attend. The cost is \$20.
- Student Led Shabbat: Friday night family Shabbat led by religious school students.

#### Friday, Nov. 2

- 5:30 p.m. is pizza and trivia; 7 p.m. is Shabbat services
- Everyone is welcome to attend. The cost is \$15 per adult and \$7.50 per child ages 3-12.
- Sisterhood Annual Game Day: A fun-filled day of games
- Tuesday, Oct. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- \$25 prepaid admission includes breakfast, lunch and drinks.
- 50/50, door prizes and raffles will be offered.
- Everyone is welcome to attend.

Beth El The Beaches Synagogue is located at 288 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information on these and all events at Beth El, call (904) 273-9100.

#### MISSIONARIES TO VISIT, SPEAK AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PONTE VEDRA BEACH



Photo courtesy of Pastor Bob Loy

George and Amy Shields, missionaries in the Philippines, will be guests of First Baptist Church of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunday, Sept. 23. George will be speaking at 10:30 a.m. in the Palm Valley Community Center, located at 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. The public is invited to attend.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Vera Schuster**

It is with great sadness that the family of Vera M. Schuster announces that she died on Sept. 16, 2018, in St. Augustine, Florida. She was 87 years old.

Vera was born in Markleysburg,



Pennsylvania. She lived most of her life in various locations in Pennsylvania and south of Chicago, before retiring with her late husband, John, to live in Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

She was a registered nurse, earning a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Cedar Crest College. She worked in nursing and health-related occupations over the years. An avid golfer and bridge player, Vera also enjoyed gardening; particularly tending her roses.

Vera is survived and lovingly remembered by her three children and their spouses, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her husband John died in 2014.

Services were held for the family at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Please visit the online tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre 3600 Third Street South

#### **Shirley Bowers**

Shirley Hall Bowers, 88, of Jacksonville, died Sept. 11, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

#### John Farnell

John Christopher Farnell Jr., 77, of Jacksonville Beach, died Sept. 8, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation

**OBITUARIES** continues on **Page 15** 





#### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOCATEE**

Keep in mind the following events taking place in Nocatee over the next week:

#### **Beer and Bingo Night**

Thursday, Sept. 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. Splash Waterpark

Pinglehead Brewing Company will be hosting a Tap Takeover at Bingo Night. This is a free event for residents and their guests. The Waterpark closes at 6 p.m., and this event is for ages 21+ only. Bingo will begin at 6:15 p.m. There will also be a variety of other board games to choose from during the evening. The Splash Bar and Rocky's will be open. RSVP to fun@ nocatee.com.

#### **Family Karaoke Night**

Friday, Sept. 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. Splash Waterpark

Come out for a night of singing, dancing and socializing. If you aren't a singer, that's ok — come hang out and support your family, friends and neighbors. The Waterpark closes at 6 p.m. Children must be accompanied and supervised by their parents for the duration of the event. There will be no staff supervision. The Splash Bar and Rocky's will also be open. This is a free event and open to all ages. RSVP to fun@nocatee.com.

#### **Nocatee Uncorked**

Saturday, Sept. 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. Splash Waterpark

Nocatee is excited to host another Nocatee Uncorked Wine Tasting event this fall. Tickets were made available for purchase online and in Resident Services starting Wednesday, Sept. 5 for \$25 per person (ages 21+) while supplies last. Tickets will include entry to the event, the wine tasting, appetizers and a custom Nocatee Uncorked wine glass. This special resident event will feature a variety of over 60 select wines, light hors d'oeuvres and live music by Hello Celia and saxophonist Pierre Kendrick. Distributor representatives will be on-site to educate on all the different wines. Guests of residents were able to purchase tickets beginning Monday, Sept. 17, while supplies last. Purchase tickets at www.eventbrite.com.

#### **Story Time with the Real House Moms**

Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Nocatee Room

Nocatee's largest resident club, the Real House Moms, is teaming up with the Nocatee events team to help host a special event for little residents. Story Time will feature a short, interactive story read by volunteers! RSVP to fun@nocatee.com.

#### **Ladies Bunco Night**

Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. Nocatee Room

The ladies of Nocatee and their guests are invited for a night of fun and games. No experience is necessary to participate. Come meet neighbors, learn a new game and enjoy \$3 glasses of wine in this free monthly event. \$10 bottles of wine are also available for purchase for the ladies. RSVP to fun@nocatee.com.

#### JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE



#### **2018 OPEN HOUSE DATES**

#### **Ponte Vedra Beach Campus**

Wed., Oct. 10, 9-11 a.m. Tue., Nov. 13, 6-8 p.m.

#### **Whitehurst Campus**

Wed., Nov. 7, 9-11 a.m. Tue., Nov. 27, 6-8 p.m.

#### **Bartram Campus**

Tue., Nov. 6, 9-11 a.m. Thu., Nov. 8, 6-8 p.m.

#### San Jose Campus

Fri., Oct. 5, 8 a.m. Fri., Nov. 2, 8 a.m.

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# NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET FEATURES BMX PERFORMANCES



Photo courtesy of Nocatee Ponte Vedra www.nocatee.com

A member of the Perfection on Wheels BMX Pros Trick Team performs a stunt in front of a crowd of onlookers at the Nocatee Farmers Market last Saturday, Sept. 15. The show included half-pipe tricks and stunts, crowd participation and more. Per the usual, the Farmers Market also included over 70 local vendors offering items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, unique foods, crafts and jewelry.



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# Ponte Vedra Wellness Center to host 5th annual Wellness Fair

For the fifth year in a row, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center is hosting a Wellness Fair on Thursday, Sept. 27 from 4:30 to 6:30

Sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Wellness Center in cooperation with the First Atlantic Bank, this event also celebrates the Wellness Center's 14th year of operation in the Ponte Vedra Beach community. To be held outside the business' office, which is located at the First Atlantic Bank building at the corner of A1A and Palm Valley Road, the event is free and open to the public and will benefit local charity Chemo Noir.

"I am honored to be celebrating 14 years and I know that our success is due to the great support we've received over the years from this community and from our patients," practice owner Dr. Erika Hamer said. "This is the fifth year for the Wellness Fair and we are really excited about the diversity in wellness services this year. This family-friendly event is a great way to connect with the local health care community as well as highlight that there are many paths that lead a person to wellness."

In addition to a party offering food and music, this year's Wellness Fair will feature a variety of local wellness and health care providers. Each wellness table will offer a complimentary item, service or special offer to those in attendance, such as chair massages, postural screenings, fitness evaluations and more. PRP Wine International, Metro Diner and Peterbrooke Chocolatier of Ponte Vedra Beach will be offering samples and tasty treats. Kona Ice will be on hand with fruit-flavored shaved

Once Wellness Fair guests visit all the tabletop displays, they will automatically be entered to win several raffle prizes, such as suite tickets to a Jaguars game; a local overnight getaway; and a family activity fun pack, among others, all donated by local businesses. While all food, services, and raffle tickets are complimentary, a donation to benefit Chemo Noir will be suggested.

"In addition to our wellness partners, we are thrilled to have the support of the Ponte Vedra Recorder and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce/Ponte Vedra Beach division as well as First Atlantic Bank who allows us to hold the event in their parking lot," Hamer added. "Everything will be free of charge, but we are hoping those attending will be inspired to give back to the community with a donation to our charitable partner, Chemo Noir — a local organization dedicated to providing financial support to the families, friends and fighters in their battle with cancer. This year we also will feature The Pink Heals Firetruck, which will be a great way to help usher in Breast Cancer Awareness month a little bit early."

This year's Wellness Fair participants include: Connect Hearing, Full Circle Women's Care, Healing Massage of Ponte Vedra, Ponte Vedra Eye Associates, Ponte Vedra Training Company, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, The Pink Heals Firetruck, UF Health Neurosurgery, Chemo Noir, First Atlantic Bank, SJC Chamber of Commerce/PVB Division, The Ponte Vedra Recorder, Metro Diner, Peterbrooke Chocolatier and PRP Wine International.

Call (904) 273-2691 for more informa-

## **Obituaries**

#### **Shahin Foroutan**

Shahin Foroutan, 77, died Sept. 8, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - www.pontevedravalley.com.

#### **Jerry Stanley**

Jerry Lester Stanley Jr., 56, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Sept. 7, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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# Cypress Records strikes a chord with partygoers

Jacksonville Beach-based recording studio gives guests the star treatment

#### **By Paris Moulden**

If there's one thing everybody across the world has in common, it's that they all have a birthday.

That's how owner of Cypress Records Dave Plummer sees it, and it's part of the reason why he offers up his studio as a unique celebration location for those looking to create birthday memories with their own sound and style.

Cypress Records, which was founded in 1962, is located at 120 North 5th St., in Jacksonville Beach, and isn't some tiny, digitally dependent sound booth. It's a full studio, able to handle a large brass band or a self-conscious soloist hoping to hit all the right notes.

Plummer's been recording music for more than 40 years — and making it for much longer — but, just a couple of years ago, he decided to offer a piece of that history and musical knowledge to area residents who want to memorialize their birthday, or pretty much any other type of special event, with their own musical journey.

#### Humble, and historic, beginnings

Plummer's first foray into running a recording studio began in a small, converted tugboat dock in Palm Valley.

Plummer was born the youngest of seven children, and the only boy. His father passed away when he was a baby, and he and his sisters were primarily raised by their grandmother, whose history in Jacksonville Beach began in 1910, when his grandparents came to the area.

Plummer became fascinated with music as a young child after listening to his aunt sing. Though the family didn't have much money, Plummer was able to take guitar lessons and wrote his first song at age 12.

At age 17, Plummer ended up in Memphis, moving in with his sister, and found himself auditioning at the famed Sun Studio, which is known as the birthplace of Rock & Roll and for kickstarting Elvis Presley's career. It was there he met Jerry Lee Lewis and Sun Studio's legendary founder Sam Phillips, who encouraged Plummer to continue his musical career. But, at age 18, homesickness brought him back to the First Coast.

"I got the taste of honey," Plummer said of seeing a real recording studio.

So, in the swamps of Palm Valley off



Photos courtesy of Cypress Records

Cypress Records in Jacksonville Beach helps birthday party guests feel like a star.



ABOVE: Cypress Records is a full recording studio with classic and modern equipment available.

RIGHT: Dave Plummer created Cypress Records more than 40 years ago in a converted tugboat dock in Palm Valley.

Roscoe Boulevard (then Oleander Drive), Plummer built his own studio out of that old tugboat structure. At the dock site, Plummer noticed a frosted glass door with gold letter leafing that read Cypress Lodging Co., inspiring the name for his studio.

In that makeshift studio, Plummer finetuned his skills and set out to lure in musicians, who, like country singer Jimmy Strickland, sometimes needed convincing.

Plummer recalls an embarrassed Strickland saying, "I can't go in that shack and record"

Strickland was encouraged after being told it would be "just a good, old-fashioned jam session," and the result was magic.

"The only record that ever sold for that man was cut in Palm Valley at Cypress Recording Studios," Plummer said.

When not working on his music business, Plummer used his building skills to construct houses. He built his first house at age 21 and went on to build many other houses around Northeast Florida.

He was also left some family land in



Jacksonville Beach, where his current studio has stood for 43 years.

#### Celebrity clients, contests and converging genres

Aside from Strickland, Cypress Records has hosted several other well-known artists. And Plummer has recorded music for a broad range of genres.

Kenny Price, of "Hee Haw" fame, baritone, jazz and R&B singer Arthur Prysock and rap-rock band Limp Bizkit, which was formed in Jacksonville in 1994 and fronted by star Fred Durst, have all recorded there.

Although many of the artists he's worked with couldn't be more different, Plummer said the feedback was the same.

"What are you doing in there, no one has ever made me sound like you did," Plummer said Price once told him.

Prysock, who had recorded music across the country, said no one had made him sound better, Plummer recalled.

Plummer's passion for the music business doesn't end with performing and recording. He also held numerous contests in the area, like 1987's "Miss Modern Country Music," which counted Miss America as a guest and drew in a Dallas Cowboys cheerleader as a participant. He's created local television shows highlighting a range of vocal talents from across all age groups.

Plummer said encouraging musicians and spreading good music fuels his passion.

"I've done a lot of things here, and it's been my life," he said.

#### Party time and appreciation for past

Plummer got the suggestion his recording studio might make a great birthday party place when he was out painting his building purple and gold not long ago. He was approached by a woman who asked if he'd ever thought about holding a birthday party there and was interested in doing one for her daughter.

After that, the idea took flight. Birthday party guests of all ages could have something different from the norm, and be the star of their own show. Party guests receive a CD of their studio recordings.

Plummer appreciates that he can transport guests and artists back to the heyday of the music recording industry, and provide an authenticity not seen much today.

"The recording business isn't like it used to be," Plummer said. "Back in those days, we didn't use gimmicks."

The current Cypress Records studio is modeled after the historic RCA Studio B in Nashville. Much of his equipment dates back to the 1960s, and while party guests can sing to karaoke track, the studio is anything but karaoke. Plummer says he works with whatever the party guests want musically, but he also allows guests the opportunity to embrace making music the way it was meant to be.

He especially enjoys hosting people who have a genuine love and appreciation for music.

"You can't teach anybody to sing, and you can't teach anybody to be a recording engineer," Plummer said. "It's gotta be born in their soul."

Plummer said he still has the same passion for recording music as he always has. He still wants to showcase bands from Americana to folk to bluegrass. Plummer also wants Cypress Records to be the go-to place for a great party, and as he approaches his own birthday, his 77th, he is grateful for the past and optimistic about the future

"I've had a real interesting life, and I'm still standing." he said.

For more information on Cypress Records, go to www.cypressrecords.com.





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# 7 Bolles students named National Merit semifinalists

On Sept. 12, officials with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced 16,000 semifinalists in the 64th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, a group that includes seven current members of the Bolles Class of 2019.

The seven semifinalists from Bolles are: Nithya Badarinath, Madeline Duhnoski, Kamren Khan, Adam Pooley, River Reynolds, Richard Sollee III and Jack Wessell.

The students received honors for high marks on the PSAT — taken during their junior year — and now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$33 million offered this spring. About 90 percent of the semifinal-



















ists are expected to attain finalist standing, and more than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, thus earning the "merit scholar" title, according to National Merit Scholarship organizers.

"Even one National Merit Semifinalist coming from Bolles is a tremendous distinction and emphasizes the quality of education happening in our classrooms," Bolles President and Head of School Tyler Hodges said. "But being notified of seven students who qualified is simply outstanding — we are thrilled. This year's results are another example of the pursuit of excellence at The Bolles School."

Upper School Head Moya Marks said the results continue the school's long

track record of producing National Merit Semifinalists.

"Academic success at Bolles comes in many forms, and these students certainly demonstrate how the Bolles experience can influence testing achievement," Marks said. "Being named a National Merit Semifinalist is a distinguished honor and we congratulate our students on their hard work."





## **BES STUDENTS CREATE BLANKETS FOR NEED** CHILDREN DURING FIRST'MAKE A DIFFERENCE MONDAY'

Beaches Episcopal School (BES) students made blankets for children in need during their first "Make a Difference Monday," on Sept. 10. Different grade levels partnered together to cut and tie edges to make finished blankets that the school will donate to Project Linus, an organization that accepts blankets to give to children who are sick or who may not have access to basic necessities. For more information, go to www.beachesepiscopalschool.org/school-news/bes-students-create-blanketsfor-needy-children-during-first-make-a-difference-monday.

Photo courtesy of Beaches Episcopal School



## Language **Exploration Enrichment** appoints new supervisor of Spanish program

Language Exploration Enrichment (LEE) recently announced the appointment of Yamile Abdalah Hernandez as the supervisor for the LEE Spanish program.

LEE is an afterschool Spanish program that is offered to all regular and extended day students at 17 St. Johns County elementary school locations. Hernandez has been involved with LEE since the early stages of the program but began to formally teach in 2016. She is licensed through the Instituto Cervantes de la Lengua Hipana to teach Spanish. In addition, she has taught at San Juan del Rio Catholic School.

Hernandez will be responsible for managing the relationships with the schools, registration, coaching and evaluations and professional development. In addition, she will be representing LEE at the upcoming Florida Foreign Language Association (FFLA) this October in Orlando.

## Essay contest held to commemorate anniversary of 14th Amendment

Local high school students are invited to participate

The lawyers and judges of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, and members of the Jacksonville Chapter of the Federal Bar Association are inviting local students to participate in the 2018 High School Essay Contest commemorating the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the 14th Amendment.

The contest is open to students cur-

rently in grades 10-12 in counties in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida (Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Hamilton, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Union). The 14th Amendment was

ratified 150 years ago and commanded, in part, that no person shall be denied "Equal Protection of the Laws." Congress and the courts have applied this Equal

# UNF admits smartest, largest freshman class in university's history

It's a new semester at the University of North Florida, where fall classes are underway for more than 17,000 students, and the numbers are in: UNF has admitted the smartest and largest incoming freshman class in the university's history.

According to the university, about 2,500 of those students are incoming freshman, who make up one of the most academically talented first-year classes. UNF's fall freshman have an estimated high school grade point average of 4.31.

"This academic year, we received another phenomenal freshman class," UNF President David Szymanski said. "Our beautiful campus was the first school of choice for these highachieving, focused students who are eager to learn."

According to UNF, this fall semester has also had the largest incoming freshman class ever, nearly 7 percent larger than last year, with a new record high in full-time equivalent

students, almost 4 percent higher from last fall. This freshman class also has set a new high in the number of credit hours attempted, nearly 4 percent higher over last fall semester.

Here are some other interesting facts about the freshman accepted at UNF this fall semester:

- This class includes students from 56 Florida counties and 23 states or U.S. territories.
- After Florida, the states with the most freshman are Georgia, North and South Carolina, New York and Puerto Rico.
- This incoming freshman class has 19 international students, with a majority coming from Brazil and Venezuela.
- Fifty-eight percent of the new freshman class are female, while 42 percent are male.
- Overall, one in five UNF students are first in their families to attend college; approximately 21 percent of this year's incoming freshman are first generation college students.

# Essay

Continued from 19

Protection Clause to the right to equal education opportunities. Student essays are required to address how the phrase, "Equal Protection of the Laws," impacts them as students. Student essays must be submitted no later than noon Eastern Standard Time on Oct. 15.

The first-place winner will be awarded \$2,000; the second-place winner will be awarded \$1,000; and the third-place winner will be awarded \$500. Prizes to the winners of the essay contest are made possible by the lawyers and judges of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, through the Middle District Bench Bar Fund.

Winners will be recognized at a cer-

emony in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse in Jacksonville in November, and at the Federal Bar Association's Spirit of Giving Luncheon in December. In addition, the first-place winner will be given the opportunity to shadow a federal judge for a day.

For additional information about the essay contest and how to enter, visit www.flmd.uscourts.gov.

# PVB Branch Library to hold biannual book sale Sept. 25-29

The Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library's (FOL) biannual book sale is coming up Sept. 25-29.

The first day of the event on Tuesday, Sept. 25 will feature a preview sale for FOL members only from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Memberships may be purchased at Seymour's Book Store inside the library or at the door the day of the event.

The book sale will continue Wednesday Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and then Thursday, Sept. 27 and Friday, Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The event will be held for a final day on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On this last day, visitors can fill a bag of books for \$10.

Membership dues and proceeds from the book sale and Seymour's will support the purchase of new materials, and special programming.

The library is seeking volunteers for the book sale. Interested people can sign up in Seymour's Bookstore.

Call the library at (904) 827-6950 with any questions.



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# First Coast YMCA celebrates new Americans during Welcoming Week

From Sept. 14-23, YMCA of Florida's First Coast will join Welcoming America and hundreds of YMCAs and other organizations nationwide to host events celebrating immigrants' contributions to communities.

Welcoming Week activities are open to the public and include KidZone games, group exercises and world map activities.

"At the First Coast YMCA, we believe that Northeast Florida is stronger when every community member feels welcome and we are all working together for the common good," said Eric K. Mann, YMCA of Florida's First Coast's President and CEO. "We are proud to be part of Welcoming Week, which highlights how people of all backgrounds can come together to create stronger communities. It is a time to celebrate the shared values that unite us as neighbors, parents and colleagues, and to make our communities more welcoming to newcomers and to everyone who calls the First Coast home."

During Welcoming Week, the First Coast YMCA branches will host various events.

For example, the Brooks Family YMCA will have KidZone activities such as "Enrichment Passports," where children and youth will learn about different countries and listen to music from other countries. The Brooks Y will also have a world map on display for individuals to mark where they are from, relaxing chair massages from KUDOs, complimentary Brass Tacks coffee and Leadership Team meet-and-greets with snacks, games and prizes. Visit firstcoastymca.org to see what events will be taking place at your local branch during Welcoming Week.

"These events are part of a powerful and growing movement in our country and around the world, demonstrating that communities want to be welcoming," Welcoming America Executive Director Rachel Peric said. "Welcoming Week is a reminder of the resilient and inclusive spirit of American communities. Thousands of local leaders nationwide are bringing their communities together to bridge divides and build stronger local economies where everyone belongs."

# ROTARY CLUB RECOGNIZES MEMBER AS 'RISING STAR'

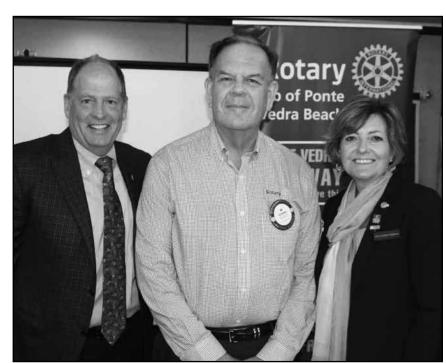


Photo by Ion Blauvelt

Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach President Mark Farrell (left) and District Governor of Rotary District 6970 Jeanette Loftus (right) recognize member Ed Dalton as a "Rising Star" in the club

# Starting At Starti

# Ocean Palms Elementary School students place in top three of global robotics competition

Three students from Ocean Palms Elementary School placed third in the 2017-2018 Wonder League Robotics Competition's 9-12 age bracket.

Competing under "The Technology Trio" team name, fourth graders Marin Driscoll and Anna Dumitrascu and fifth grader Anna Hoen learned creative problem solving, coding and robotics by competing against more than 22,000 students in collaborative teams to design solutions to science and technology challenges. More than 7,100 teams from 63 countries participated in the competition, which took place this past spring.

The Wonder League is a growing, worldwide network of elementary coding and robotics clubs using Wonder Workshop's all-inclusive program to inspire an early love of coding, computer science, tangible learning and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education. Clubs form through schools, communities, homes, and friendship. Teams of students between the ages of 6 and 12 with access to one set of Dash & Dot robots — which students program using code — participate in the Robotics Competition, where they develop problem solving, growth mindset and creativity skills through learning to code.

Lauren Wade, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) resource teacher at Ocean Palms Elementary, sponsored the team. Parent volunteers helped each team to stay focused and accomplish their goals. Wade said the accomplishments of "The Technology Trio" show how much hard work and dedication the girls had to put into the competition.

The 2017-2018 Wonder League Robotics Competition began in October 2017, with a finalist round being held in February 2018. Teams competed through nine missions to explore and colonize an unknown planet by completing coding lessons and challenges. The top five teams received a Dash robot for every member of the team, and a special edition Wonder League finalist shirt.

"This Floridian trio impressed us with their loads and loads of documentation around goal setting, planning, prototyping and testing," the Wonder League said about the local, winning team. "What an exemplar of design thinking!"

Wonder League Robotics
Competition 3'd Place!

OPES students
Marin Driscoll,
Anna Dumitrascu,
Anna Hoen and
OPES teacher Lauren Wade celebrating placing third
in the Wonder
League Robotics
Competition's
9-12 age bracket.

Photo courtesy of Pam Riley

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- Clean Closets for those in need
  - Kate Amato Foundation to fund three groundbreaking pediatric cancer research projects
  - Delores Barr Weaver makes \$1
     million endowment gift to United Way



# Red Coats present \$5,000, new golf equipment to Special Olympics Florida – Duval County

#### **By Benjamin Naim**

THE PLAYERS Championship's volunteer leadership, the Red Coats, presented a \$5,000 donation to Special Olympics Florida - Duval County and surprised the organization's athletes with brand new golf equipment on Tuesday, Sept. 18 at Hidden Hills Golf Club in Jacksonville.

Jessica Ray, Duval County executive director for Special Olympics Florida, applied for the Red Coat grant from THE PLAYERS and said the new equipment and financial donation will make a tremendous impact on the organization.

"The money goes to new clubs, but also new golf shoes," she said. "It goes to pay venue fees to go elsewhere and golf at different places, new uniforms. It definitely goes directly back to our athletes."

Ray said watching the athletes receive their new golf equipment is the reason she wakes up every morning.

"It's not about the paper work, it's not about anything else," she said. "It's really about them getting to get their hands on gear that maybe they wouldn't. A lot of times we're playing with older equipment and for them to get to play with brand new equipment — it's amazing for them. Seeing them hitting with their new golf clubs, it's the reason why we do what we do.'

The visit with Special Olympics was one stop of the Red Coat Ride Out, an annual tradition of giving for THE PLAYERS Championship. The Red Coats also made a stop that day at BASCA (Building Abilities of Special Children and Adults) in Orange Park to tour its facility and present a similar monetary donation.

Ray, who described the Red Coat Ride Out as an amazing event, went on to explain how Special Olympics Duval offers its athletes the best equipment it can purchase while helping them make lasting memories. Additionally, Ray noted that her organization has seen exponential growth in its golf program from just seven athletes in 2016 to 27 athletes in 2018.

"It's really cool to have the Red Coats come out and see value in the programs we're offering enough to give us not only funds," she said, "but actual equipment for our athletes right now so that they can come out and hit clubs.'

As the athletes tested out their new equipment and enjoyed the outdoors, Chris Schaier — the father of Special Olympics athlete Fletcher Schaier — said his reaction to the event was overwhelm-

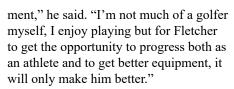
"These athletes are just trying so hard to do their best with what they've got, and we don't always have the best equip-



THE PLAYERS Championship's volunteer leadership, the Red Coats, present a \$5,000 check to Jessica Ray, Duval County executive director for Special Olympics Florida on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at Hidden Hills Golf Club in Jacksonville.



Special Olympics athletes enjoy the new equipment gifted to them by the Red Coats at the Red Coat Ride Out on Tuesday, Sept. 18.



Schaier's son has been participating in the Special Olympics for five years. Getting involved in sports has helped Fletcher gain confidence, be a better teammate and offer an opportunity for him to socialize, he added.

"He loves it," Schaier noted. "I love golf, (Fletcher) likes to get out there with me ... he's learned skills over the last couple years but now he's progressed to where he can actually get out and play."



**ABOVE: Special** Olympics athlete Amanda poses for a photo with her new golf equipment.

**LEFT: Special** Olympics athlete Fletcher Schaier unpacks his new golf club and prepares to take a few swings at the Red Coat Ride Out.

Photos by



# Kate Amato Foundation awards \$100,000 for innovative pediatric cancer research

The Kate Amato Foundation will award \$100,000 to fund three groundbreaking pediatric cancer research projects during Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September.

Kate Amato, a local Jacksonville Beach girl who died in November 2016 after a long battle with cancer, is the inspiration for the Foundation. Through her illness, Kate's parents said they discovered how underfunded pediatric cancer research is and witnessed first-hand the brutal effects of outdated, toxic treatments. To honor Kate's life, and continue the fight for other children, the Kate Amato Foundation is dedicated to finding safer, more effective treatments for children with cancer.

"In our first year, we are funding three cutting-edge pediatric cancer research projects at some of the leading immunotherapy and cancer genomics research labs across the country," said Dr. Lisa Amato, executive director of Kate Amato Foundation and Kate's mother. "We chose to award the funding in September to honor Childhood Cancer Awareness month."

These are the Foundation's grant recipi-

- Dr. Patricia Ernst and Dr. Terry Fry at the Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Initiative at University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children's Hospital of Colorado, whose project is entitled "Developing a pediatric B-ALL model to uncover epigenetic mechanisms of relapse from CAR-T cell immunotherapy" and focuses on developing more effective CAR-T immune therapy treatments to prevent relapse in poor-prognosis leukemia.
- Dr. Chris Man at the Cancer Genomics and Genetics Program at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Cancer Center, whose project is entitled "The Role of CXCL 10-CXCR3 AXIS in Osteosarcoma Metastasis" and seeks to develop a biomarker-guided treatment approach that will eliminate metastasis in osteosarcoma.
- Dr. Martina Roos and Dr. John Chute at The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, whose project is entitled "Novel Targeted Therapy to Eliminate Leukemic Stem Cells in Pediatric Acute Myeloid Leukemia" and seeks to develop a pioneering approach to target pediatric leukemic stem cells that could very likely lead to a new class of drugs for precision medicine in pediatric AML therapy.

"We are deeply grateful and humbled to be a recipient of the inaugural Kate Amato Foundation Research Grant," Roos said. "This generous support will allow our laboratory to push our translational research program forward and focus developing a novel targeted therapy approach for AML, and we are hopeful



The team of Dr. Patricia Ernst and Dr. Terry Fry celebrate receiving a grant from the Kate Amato Foundation.



The research team of Dr. Chris Man receives a grant to fund its innovative pediatric cancer research.



The research team of Dr. Martina Roos receives notification of their award.

that our precision medicine approach will lay the foundation for the development of new and better treatments that will eliminate disease-propagating leukemic cancer stem cells."

One of the pediatric oncologists serving on the Scientific Advisory Board guiding the Foundation in the selection of these pioneering projects is Dr. Patrick Brown of Johns Hopkins University.

"I'm very impressed with the strength and quality of applications KAF received this year," Brown said. "The fact that they have been able to successfully fundraise, attract high caliber research scientists and fund such strong research projects in their first year is remarkable."

Dr. Tim Cripe of Nationwide Children's Hospital, another KAF advisor added. "Kate's Foundation is poised to make a significant impact on children with cancer. Even in their first year, the Foundation team was able to attract high-quality proposals and select three innovative and impactful projects for funding that will very likely lead to better outcomes for

patients in the future. I'm so excited to see the impact of Kate Amato Foundation in the years ahead."

Lisa and Jeff Amato, Kate's parents and directors of the foundation, expressed sincere gratitude to the Jacksonville community, stating, "This community wrapped its arms around Kate and our family during her illness. Now, to see everyone rallying behind Kate's Foundation to help build her legacy, it's breathtaking and shows just how kind and caring the people are in our community."







Two local fundraising events are scheduled in October to support Bike MS, which is scheduled for Oct. 13-14.

# Local restaurants to fundraise for Bike MS

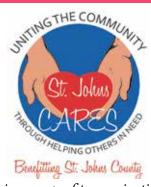
Two October fundraising events will help kick off and support the 32nd annual Bike MS PGA TOUR Cycle to the Shore, the 1,500-plus participant bicycle ride scheduled for Oct. 13-14.

On Oct. 1, between 5 and 8 p.m., Tijuana Flats in Nocatee will host its second MS Spirit Night, donating a percentage of food and beverage sales to the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and Bike MS. Funds raised will help support programs and services to the more than 20,000 people in North Florida impacted

In addition, every day in October from 4 p.m. until closing, Down South BBQ in Ponte Vedra Beach will also donate a portion of its sales to multiple sclerosis. For both events, customers need only mention multiple sclerosis or Bike MS.

Bike MS, the nation's largest cycling event, last year raised more than \$1 million locally. The ride, which begins and ends at Sawgrass, is open to any level of cyclist and is fully supported by staff, volunteers, local bike shops, rest stops and law enforcement. Participants have a one or two-day riding option, as well as multiple distances. Overnight lodging is also available on Oct. 13 in Daytona Beach.

To learn more about Bike MS, visit www.BikeMS.org.



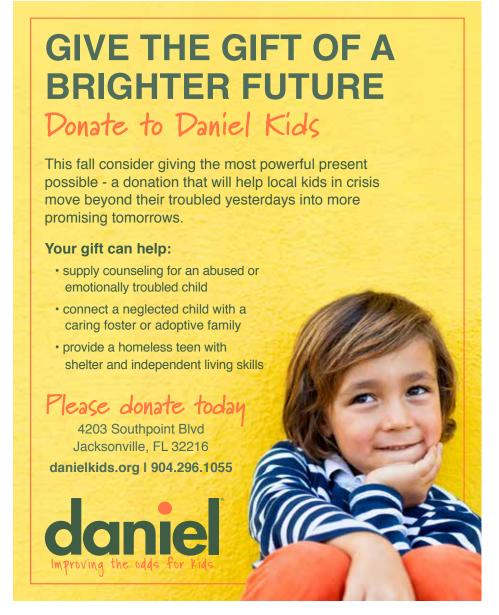
*St. Johns CARES, Inc.* is a nonprofit organization committed to helping local charities in St. Johns County. We provide assistance to local charities and those in need through donations and time. We divide our charity efforts into five different categories; Animals & Environment, Senior & Veterans, Children & Education, Medical and Homeless & Abused. We focus on these categories throughout the year.

#### EXCITING UPCOMING EVEN

- Ice Cream Social 1-3 pm on Saturday September 29th to benefit V for Victory (local charity for families battling
- Nocatee on Thanksgiving Morning - Service hour
- Giving Tree Initiative in December for the Holiday Season
- Dog Day Afternoon in Plantation Park (Julington Creek) on March 31, 2019









**Annual Food Drive** beginning November 17th

Turkey Trot by Psych Ed in

(904) 507-7740 president@stjohnscares.org www.stjohnscares.org



The Jay Fund staff gathers with Tom Coughlin (center) at the City of Jacksonville proclamation event at City Hall on Sept. 5.





**ABOVE: Keli Coughlin and Savannah Lahtinen** 

LEFT: Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry proclaims Sept. 5 Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Day.

# Jay Fund Day celebrated Sept. 5 throughout greater Jacksonville

The City of Jacksonville proclaimed Sept. 5 as Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Day in honor of the more than 20 years of support the nonprofit organization has provided to local families tackling childhood cancer and in recognition of September being Childhood Cancer Awareness

The day began at 9:30 a.m. with a ceremony at City Hall where leadership from the City of Jacksonville, Nemours Children's Specialty Care and Wolfson Children's Hospital honored and celebrated the Jay Fund. Mayor Lenny Curry proclaimed the day Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Day, followed by various activities and celebrations throughout Jacksonville.

"This wonderful recognition could not have happened without so many incredible friends and partners, who have allowed us to BE THERE for the many families facing the unthinkable in our own backyards," stated Keli Coughlin, executive director of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund.

Throughout the day, local businesses engaged in the festivities and donated percentages of their sales to the Jay Fund. Private events/activities were also held at various organizations on the First Coast in recognition of the organization. For example, Chets Creek Elementary School encouraged students to wear Jay Fund colors.

Founded in 1996, the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation was created in honor of Jay McGillis — a football player who developed leukemia while playing on Coach Coughlin's team at Boston College. In the eight months between McGillis' diagnosis and the day he lost his battle with cancer, the Coughlin family witnessed the physical, emotional and financial stress the illness caused for the McGillis family. As a result, Coughlin started the Jay Fund Foundation in McGillis' honor to help families cope with the financial strain of battling cancer. Since its inception, the foundation has helped over 5,000 families and given away over \$9.8 million in grants.

The organization recently opened its new headquarters location in Ponte Vedra Beach.

# North Florida Land Trust acquires land along Sixmile Creek

North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) recently acquired two parcels of cypress wetlands totaling approximately 57 acres on the western bank of Sixmile Creek, which runs along Joe Ashton Road in St. Augustine. The newly-purchased land will be added to NFLT's existing Sixmile Creek Preserve, which the nonprofit purchased in 2016.

"This addition is primarily a natural floodplain swamp and preserving it has ecosystem benefits, including acting as a natural filter for nutrients and pollutants from the creek," said Jim McCarthy, president of NFLT. "These parcels have a rich wetland ecosystem that provide food and shelter for numerous birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish."

Founded in 1999, NFLT has protected thousands of acres of environmentally significant land, including property at Big Talbot Island; the River Branch Preserve; Pumpkin Hill; Moccasin Slough, along the St. Mary's River; and other valued natural areas predominantly in Northeast Florida. In its Preservation Portfolio – a document created to target land in critical need of preservation – the nonprofit targets a total of 112,346 acres of land in a seven-county focus area for preservation, including 5,500 acres along Sixmile



## Intuition Ale Works 929 E. Bay Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Saturday, October 13, 2018

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ADMISSION IS FREE!

**Enjoy hours of** 

#### ANGELS for ALLIS N

family friendly fun.

- Experience crafts, face painting, giant board games, bounce house, and so much more!
- Dance to live music
- Enjoy food and drink by Black Sheep and Cross Creek.
- Sip on mimosas and locally brewed beer
- Participate in our extensive raffle prize drawings and 50/50 raffle.



Angels for Allison is a non-profit organization founded by Drew and Lee Haramis in memory of their 15-year-old daughter, Allison Haramis, who was tragically killed in a car accident in April 2009. Allison's family and friends continue to honor her legacy by providing help with financial needs and ongoing support to families who are suffering with the devastating loss of a child. Angels for Allison has helped over 340 families across 7 Northeast Florida counties.

Text "flight" to 515-55 to subscribe.





Photo courtesy of First Coast Blessings in a Backpack

First Coast Blessings in a Backpack's board of directors Martin Buckley (from left), Kimberly Ward, Katie Cox, Kristine Phillips, Myrna Brannon, Dorothy Williams, Wyatt Haynes, Christine Reitz, Rohan Bhargava and Sean Stenson (Not pictured: Joy Bardin)

# First Coast Blessings in a Backpack announces new board of directors and emeritus board

First Coast Blessings in a Backpack recently announced the appointment of its board of directors, officers and emeritus board members for 2018. They are:

#### 2018 First Coast Blessings in a Backpack board members:

Christine Reitz, Regions Bank, Chairwoman of the board

Joy Bardin, Jax Refrigeration, Vice chairman

Dorothy Williams, Publix Super Mar-

kets, Secretary

Rohan Bhargava

Myrna Brannon

Martin Buckley

Katie Cox

Wyatt Haynes

Kristine Phillips

Sean Stenson

Kimberly Martinez-Ward, Managing

**BOARD** continues on Page 31





Sample cuisine and beverages from nearly 50 of Northeast Florida's finest chefs, sommeliers and brewers.

#### Sunday, November 4, 2018

7-9:30 p.m. • The Avenues Mall • Tickets \$70

We do good.

Purchase tickets and view a list of participating restaurants at chscaringchefs.com. Call 904.493.7739 for sponsorship information.







Mrs. C. Herman Terry















The Monique Burr Foundation (MBF) team, including founder Ed Burr (far right, back row); his wife, Billie Jo (second from right, back row); and President/CEO Lynn Layton (Center, front row) gather for a check presentation from the 2017 MBF Champions for Child Safety Pro Am Golf Tournament. This year's tournament takes place on Monday, Oct. 15 at The Palencia Club in St. Augustine.

# LENNAR and MBF Champions for Child Safety Pro Am Golf Tournament set for Oct. 15

The Monique Burr Foundation for Children (MBF) will host the 21st annual LENNAR and MBF Champions for Child Safety Pro Am Golf Tournament presented by Drummond, on Monday, Oct. 15 at 8 a.m. at The Palencia Club in St. Augustine.

The event will start with a Pairings Party at The Palencia Club on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. Golf contests the following day will include a \$1 million shoot-out, six hole-in-one contests and a pre-event

putting contest. Last year's event raised more than \$175,000 for the foundation and its signature MBF Prevention Education Programs. Based in Jacksonville, MBF's primary prevention programs address the most common types of victimization experienced by children and young adults, including bullying, digital dangers

**TOURNAMENT** continues on **Page 31** 



#### Offering:

- Free YOGA for cancer patients (Jax Beach)
- **Breast prosthetic fittings**
- Post-mastectomy bras and swimwear
- Post-surgical garments with drain pouches
- Weightless breast forms for post-surgery and leisure wear
- Wig selection and fitting
- Scarves, hats and turbans
- Skincare products developed for radiation and chemotherapy patients.
- **Educational and inspirational books**
- Gifts for patients, families, and caregivers

In the Pink is a 501c3 non-profit boutique and salon dedicated to helping women heal, cope and survive the effects of cancer...physically and emotionally.

- Salon, which includes free head shaving and wig fitting (Jax Beach & Sarasota locations only)
- Cancer resource center with free computer
- Lymphedema products
- Compression garment fittings
- Private parties: "Survivor Showers" and "Head Shaving Parties"
- Caring support from a loving staff
- Proud host of the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Fest

Jacksonville Beach 904.372.0029 San Marco 904.396.5515 Sarasota 941.953.PINK (7465) jaxinthepink.com



#### Want to get out on the water and get in a great workout?

Learn to paddle with the JacksonvilleDragon Boat Club. This is a sport families can participate in together!

2315 Beach Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32250

jacksonvilledragonboatclub.com



our annual fundraiser dedicated to helping those in need.



#### CASA MARINA HOTEL & RESTAURANT



THURSDAY, SEPT. 27TH, 2018 5:30-9:30 P.M. TICKETS: \$100

#### Reserve your tickets today!

www.missionhousejax.org/compassionbythesea Dress: Resort Casual

**FEATURING:** Music by *Cloud 9* with complimentary food, beer, and wine, silent auction, wine pull and wine toss



# Clean Closets: Local student creates nonprofit to help those in need

#### **By Benjamin Naim**

A Bolles student and Ponte Vedra Beach resident has formed a nonprofit organization focused on offering clothing, household products and other items to those in need.

Luke Piatt, a student at the Bolles Upper School San Jose Campus, developed Clean Closets in 2016. He said he devised the idea in middle school after passing by an orphanage during his commute to school, which sparked his curiosity.

"Every time I got home, I found that I had all these hand-me-downs from my brothers that me and him didn't use," he said. "I realized, 'Hey, I could help the orphanage by donating this stuff to them,' and so through that, I started the organization. We started collecting stuff from our neighbors and getting clothes together to the other charities as well."

Piatt's main mission is to assist the underprivileged and make sure everyone has

"We also do other items as well besides clothing," he noted. "We do household items, printers and other things too."

Piatt's nonprofit organizes drives and attempts to meet the needs of the community. Additionally, the organization helps with disaster relief efforts such as hurricane cleanup. "We started collecting stuff from our neighbors and getting clothes together to the other charities as well."

Luke Piatt, creator of Clean Closets

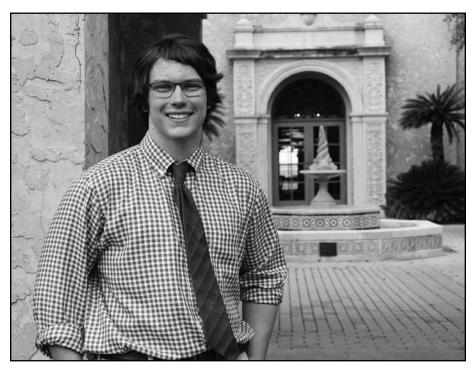
One of Piatt's personal goals is to put more time into his nonprofit after graduating from high school.

"It's definitely hard for me with school and sports to really work on it so there's definitely going to be more work into it once I graduate," he said "There is going to be more gradual (work) while I'm in

This winter, Piatt plans on holding a drive for coats, blankets, socks and other items to help people keep warm.

Anyone interested in sending donations to Clean Closets can do so by dropping off items at Country Club Real Estate, located at 880 A1A in Ponte Vedra Beach. Alternatively, interested donors can contact the nonprofit and have items picked up from a specific location.

For more information on Clean Closets, visit www.cleanclosets.org.





**ABOVE: Luke Piatt,** a Bolles student and **Ponte Vedra Beach** resident, manages Clean Closets, a nonprofit focused on offering clothing, household products and other items to those in need.

Photo by Susanna Barton

**LEFT: Items that have** been dropped off by donors are stored at Piatt's mother's real estate agency, Country Club Real Estate, located at 880 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Photo by Benjamin Naim

## St. Johns County Solar Co-op wraps with donation to local nonprofits

With the help of nonprofit Solar United Neighbors, homeowners in St. Johns County joined together last year and formed a solar co-op to save money and make going solar easier.

Participants used a competitive bidding process to choose A1A Solar, of Jacksonville, to install solar systems for the group's homeowners. Included in the company's bid was a pledge to donate a portion of the revenue it earned from the co-op to local charities.

At the co-op's completion celebration, A1A announced a donation of \$7,350 to be split between Compassionate St. Augustine, the lead local organizer of the solar co-op, and the soon-to-open tag! Children's Museum of St. Augustine.

"A1A Solar is thrilled to have been selected to participate in the St John's County Solar Co-Op and to have been given the opportunity to help dozens of homeowners and families in St Johns County 'go solar' this year," said Shellie Thies, A1A Solar's chief marketing officer. "We are especially proud of the fact that the community chose us, in part, because of our pledge to contribute a portion of each (job) to a



A1A Solar, of Jacksonville, donates \$7,350 to Compassionate St. Augustine and tag! Children's Museum of St. Augustine with the help of nonprofit Solar United Neighbors and St. Johns **County homeowners** 

nonprofit fund which has resulted in over \$10,000 in donations to date."

Compassionate St. Augustine Executive Director Caren Goldman said her organization is honored to have been chosen for

"This donation by A1A Solar will help

Compassionate St. Augustine's Environmental Rights Initiative engage people, businesses and institutions in the shift away from single use plastics, and toward increased demand for clean energy," she

Solar United Neighbors expands access

to solar by educating Florida residents about the benefits of distributed solar energy, helping them organize group solar installations and strengthening Florida solar policies and its community of solar supporters.

"Solar energy brings people together and builds stronger communities," said Angela Demonbreun, Solar United Neighbors of Florida program director. "We're excited that this solar co-op was able to benefit not just the homeowners who participated, but all St. Augustine residents as well.'

Solar United Neighbors supports solar co-ops across the country. These co-ops are a part of the organization's mission to create a new energy system with rooftop solar as the cornerstone. Solar United Neighbors holds events and education programs to help people become informed solar consumers, maximize the value of their solar investment and advocate for fair solar policies.

Those interested in supporting the organizations' work and becoming a member can do so by visiting www.solarunitedneighbors.org/Florida.

#### **Board**

#### **Emeritus board:**

Tabitha Furvk Robin Braddock Nikki Kimbleton Bill Myers

"Welcome to our new board members — we are looking forward to their fresh thoughts and ideas for Blessings in a Backpack programs and activities, including our upcoming National Mayor's Day events," Managing Director Kimberly Ward said.

First Coast Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. First Coast Blessings in a Backpack currently provides 22,980 hunger-free weekends to 3,800 children in Duval and St. Johns counties.

"Congratulations to the new Blessings directors," incoming Blessings chairwoman Christine Reitz said. "Thanks to the outgoing directors for their service and contributions, and to my fellow Board members for their expression of confidence in electing me chairwoman."

For more information about First Coast Blessings in a Backpack call (904) 574-6802 or visit www.firstcoastblessingsinabackpack.org

#### Tournament

The tournament's honorary chairmen will be pro golfers Fred Funk, Jim Furyk and Mark McCumber. The tournament chair will be MG Orender.

Registration for the golf tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by opening ceremonies at 9:45 a.m. and the shotgun start at 10 a.m. The awards reception will take place at 3:30 p.m.

Player pricing ranges from \$1,750 to \$7,000. For more information and to register, visit www.championsforchildsafety. org. The Palencia Club is located at 600

Palencia Club Drive in St. Augustine.

MBF is a nonprofit organization started by Edward E. Burr in 1997 on the one-year anniversary of the death of Monique Burr, his late wife, to continue her legacy of child protection and child advocacy. This year, MBF is celebrating its 21st anniversary.

MBF's elementary school, middle school and after school programs educate and empower students and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of child abuse, digital abuse and other digital dangers. To learn more about the foundation and its programs, visit mbfpreventioneducation.org.

# Homelessness is a Crisis!

#### St. Francis House is part of the solution.

Housing focused programs for homeless men, women and families. St Johns County's only comprehensive housing crisis center.

Assisted 210 households to housing in 2017.

> Your support makes housing happen!





ST. FRANCIS HOUSING CRISIS CENTER and PORT IN THE STORM HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER

Programs of St. Augustine Society

Compassion . Shelter . Opportunity

Learn more. Visit www.stfrancisshelter.org or call 904-824-8987 ext. 2012.

# The Chemo Noir Fall Gala

Don't Miss Out...Get Your Tickets Now!















This is our annual GALA fundraising event that will include wine tastings, drinks, heavy hor d'oeuvres, music, dancing, a silent auction, a raffle and great times to support our mission. The Chemo Noir mission is to host and inspire wine centric events that raise money to provide financial support to the families, friends and fighters in their battle with Cancer.

#### Saturday, October 13th from 5-8p @ 3 Palms Grille in Ponte Vedra

More details & ticket information on the @chemonoir Facebook page, or at: chemonoir.com/events Tickets are \$75 each.





# Delores Barr Weaver makes \$1 million endowment gift to United Way of NE Florida

United Way of Northeast Florida recently announced a \$1 million gift from Delores Barr Weaver to United Way's endowment.

The gift, from the Delores Barr Weaver Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, is the first \$1 million endowment gift in United Way of Northeast Florida's 94-year history.

"Delores is a game changer and forward thinker who continues to lead the way with this gift," said Michelle Braun, president and CEO of United Way of Northeast Florida. "She understands how critical endowments are to the longevity of organizations like United Way and the more than 70 partners we support. We are so thankful for her generosity."

Weaver and her husband, Wayne, first donated to United Way in 1995 upon their arrival to Jacksonville as the owners of the newest NFL franchise, the Jacksonville Jaguars. Along with their financial invest-



Photo courtesy of Sarah Henderson

**Delores Barr Weaver** 

ments, Weaver offers her time and energy to United Way by serving in multiple leadership roles, including service as a board trustee.

In recognition of her support and leadership, the board elected Weaver the first

In 1996, 1997 and 2011, Delores and Wayne Weaver served as United Way's Alexis de Tocqueville Society co-chairs, leading the organization's highest level donors and most respected philanthropic leaders committed to funding strategic solutions to solve the community's toughest challenges.

Weaver was also recognized in 1996 with a special Tocqueville Society award, sharing that "all of us working together are stronger than any one of us alone."

Due to their passion and hope for inspiring others to give at the Tocqueville level, the Weavers previously gave United Way of Northeast Florida its very first \$1 million gift in 1999 to establish the "Weaver Challenge," making them a member of United Way Worldwide's Million Dollar Roundtable.

This challenge grant initiative allows donors to annually step up their gift over a

period of years and, through this challenge, the Weavers were able to leverage their investment to generate more than 3 million new dollars for Northeast Florida over a five-year period.

Weaver's recent endowment gift ensures her annual United Way Tocqueville Society support will always benefit the community, providing a sustainable revenue stream to United Way and its partners.

"United Way of Northeast Florida is a critical leader in addressing the most challenging conditions of our community," said Weaver. "I am proud to support United Way's efforts for generations to come, knowing the lives of local children and families will be irrevocably trans-

Anyone interested in making an endowed gift of any size to United Way of Northeast Florida should contact Kristie Naines at kristien@uwnefl.org, or (904) 330-3236.

# Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville to host Buddy Walk Oct. 20

The Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville (DSAJ) will host its 16th annual Buddy Walk on Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach.

Proceeds from the event will support DSAJ programs designed to enhance the lives of those with Down syndrome in Jacksonville and surrounding communities. These programs range from independent skills instruction and family support meetings to educational workshops and sports groups.

The day-of registration portion of the event opens at 10 a.m., with the walk starting at 12:30 p.m. on the beach. In addition to the walk, attendees can expect family friendly festival activities, including inflatable jumps, carnival rides, music, entertainment and more.

The Buddy Walk is a nationwide event created to celebrate Down syndrome and to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. This year, the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville set a fundraising goal of \$245,000 and 3,500

For more information and to register, visit www.DSAJ.org or call (904) 353-6300.





Photos courtesy of Kristen DeSmidt





# TEAM HEAL to host Sept. 29 fundraiser at Intuition Ale Works

The Heal Foundation's new board of young professionals, TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) HEAL will hold a Bags & Brews Cornhole Shootout fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Intuition Ale Works in Jacksonville.

Presented by Capital Markets Cooperative, the fundraiser will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature 32 teams. The Shootout will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Garrett Bedenbaugh, Action News Jax First Alert Meteorologist, will emcee the event.

TEAM HEAL is a group of young professionals who are passionate about increasing advocacy and awareness of autism in the community. Based in Ponte Vedra Beach, HEAL has been serving Northeast Florida's autism community since 2004.

"TEAM HEAL will help bring a new young diverse energy and help raise awareness, funds and hope for those living with autism," HEAL Founder Leslie Weed said.

Visit www.healautismnow.org for more information.



Mark Middlebrook (left), executive director of Timucuan Parks Foundation, accepts the 2018 Environmental Achievement Award in the Community/Civic Category at the 2018 JEPB and University of North Florida Environmental Symposium luncheon.

# **Timucuan Parks Foundation** receives award from Jacksonville **Environmental Protection Board**

The Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board (JEPB) presented Timucuan Parks Foundation with the 2018 Environmental Achievement Award in the Community/Civic Category.

The award was handed out at the 2018 JEPB and University of North Florida Environmental Symposium luncheon. The award is given each year to an organization that has demonstrated leadership, creativity and commitment in support of the environment.

We are honored to receive this award from the Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board," said Mark Middlebrook, executive director of Timucuan Parks Foundation. "This award is reflective of nearly 20 years of hard work by many, many people who have recognized how important our preserves are to the overall health and well-being of our community. We have a committed board, an extraordinary staff who bring new ideas and concepts to TPF, plus hundreds of volunteers who give up their time to help build, repair, maintain and make our parks the best in the state. I would like to congratulate all of them. This is their award."

Timucuan Parks Foundation works side by side

with city, state and national park partners to support the parks and preserves through advocacy, outreach and education, volunteer projects and fundraising. The nonprofit facilitates the partnership between the three levels of management and is the only park system in the nation with this type of collaboration.

The foundation dates back to 1999, when the Preservation Project Jacksonville, Inc. was established to identify and assist in acquiring the most vulnerable and environmentally sensitive lands in Duval County. The acquisition of lands created the largest urban park system in the United States, including more than 130 square miles of park space and preserves, more than 1.100 miles of river and tributary shoreline and Atlantic Ocean beachfront and more than 100 miles of upland trails. The Timucuan Parks Foundation works with their park partners, including the National Park Service, Florida State Parks and the City of Jacksonville, to promote environmental stewardship, the health benefits of the parks and preserves for all citizens and an appreciation for Jacksonville's special outdoor spaces. For more information, visit timucuanparks.org.

## Mission House to hold annual fundraiser Sept. 27

Mission House is hosting its annual fundraiser, Compassion by the Sea, on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Casa Marina Hotel in Jacksonville Beach.

The event will feature live music from Cloud 9, complimentary food, beer and wine, and a silent and live

auction. The attire is resort casual. Tickets to the event cost \$100 per person. For more information, call (904) 241-6767 ext. 121, email businessmgr@missionhouse.org or visit www.missionhousejax.org/ compassionbythesea.

A Jacksonville Beach-based

nonprofit dedicated to aiding the homeless members of the Beaches community, Mission House provides food, clothing, medical care and support services, with an ultimate goal of self-sufficiency. Visitwww.missionhousejax.org for more information.

# Friends of the GTM Reserve announces Oceanwise 2018 keynote speaker

The Friends of the GTM Reserve recently announced that Barbara Blonder, associate professor of natural sciences and director of undergraduate research at Flagler College, will be the keynote speaker for the organization's annual fundraiser benefiting the Reserve, Oceanwise, which is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 29.

"We are thrilled that Professor Blonder has agreed to speak at this year's event," said Ellen Leroy-Reed, executive director of Friends of the GTM Reserve. "She has an extensive interest in how ecosystems work at all levels. She is also passionate about including her students in her research, which we hope to learn more about at Oceanwise."

Blonder's research and training spans from working with The Nature Conservancy in both Putnam County and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, to working for the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) as a stewardship coordinator, along with researching spiny lobsters in the Florida Keys for the Florida Marine Research

In 2016, she embarked on a research sabbatical with her two colleagues, Dr. Lee Newsom and Dr. Terri Seron. Some of her students were also recruited to record data for better understanding the ecosystem fire impacts in the coastal strand. She continued her research focusing on the food habits of the coastal strand gopher tortoise (Gopherus polyphemus) population and how they may have been affected by the impacts of hurricanes Matthew and Irma.

This is the ninth annual Oceanwise benefit to be held at the GTM Research Reserve's Visitor Center located directly on the Guana River in Ponte Vedra Beach. Tickets are \$65 per person and can be purchased online. Those interested in sponsoring Oceanwise can contact Ellen Leroy-Reed at GTM\_Friends@gtmnerr.org or (904) 823-4527.

The Friends of the GTM Reserve is a private nonprofit citizen support organization established to support and enhance environmental education, stewardship of natural and cultural resources and scientific research of the GTM Research Reserve through volunteer initiatives, citizen involvement and community partnerships.

The GTM Research Reserve is one of 29 National Estuarine Research Reserves across the nation focused on researching, educating and protecting the natural biodiversity and cultural resources within the estuary. It is managed by Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Coastal Office, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Visitor Center is located at 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, 32082. For more information about the GTM Research Reserve, call (904) 823-4500 or visit www.gtmnerr.org.



Professor Barbara Blonder, associate professor of natural sciences at Flagler College, will be this year's keynote speaker at Oceanwise, the Friends of the GTM Reserve's annual fundraiser benefiting the Reserve.



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# Busir eekly PAGE 35 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

Christy Budnick named new president/CEO of Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

# The PARC Group announces neighborhoods in eTown

The PARC Group, developers of eTown and Nocatee, has unveiled plans for its first neighborhoods within the eTown community. With prices starting in the mid \$300s, the highly anticipated community is inspired by innovation.

eTown is a new smart living community built around the belief that convenience, community, technology and sustainability

enhance a modern way of life. According to The PARC Group, eTown will facilitate a connected and convenient lifestyle for residents enhanced by thoughtful details rooted in sustainability and state-of-theart technology. Smart living at eTown will include homes, retail, office, parks and more. With abundant natural areas, a diverse neighborhood blueprint, and more,

there will be many opportunities to connect at eTown.

The first two neighborhoods unveiled in eTown include Edison by Toll Brothers Homes, and Marconi by David Weekley and ICI Homes. Both neighborhoods will feature one- and two-story home designs featuring new architecture ranging from approximately 2,500 to over 4,000 square feet. Builders will release floor plans on eTownJax.com and begin selling homes in the coming months, with model homes scheduled to open in summer 2019.

Located off SR9B near I-295 on the southside of Jacksonville, eTown is nearby the area's dining, shopping and cultural destinations. For more information on eTown, visit www.eTownJax.com.

# Vizergy celebrates 20 years of business

#### By Samantha Logue

Jacksonville-based digital marketing company Vizergy is celebrating 20 years of business this year, and to commemorate its two decades of success, the company hosted an anniversary party for its employees last month in Ponte Vedra Beach.

"The staff was really excited about the 20-year milestone and the marketing department wanted to create an event," said Vizergy CEO Joe Hyman, who has been a Ponte Vedra resident for the past 15 years. "Our company, we're really into events, employee celebrations and company culture, so I said, 'That sounds like a great idea. I'll get behind it."

Held Aug. 11 at Fantasy Farms, the luau-themed party offered employees a chance to come together and celebrate their collective achievements since the company's founding

Initially called Secure-Res, Vizergy offers online marketing services and tools to businesses in the hospitality industry. Originally conceived as a software to assist hotels in securing online reservations, the company evolved over time to match the chang-



Photo courtesy of Vizergy

Vizergy employees celebrate 20 years of business at the company's luau-themed anniversary party held Aug. 11 at Fantasy Farms in Ponte Vedra Beach.

ing landscape of the digital age, and in 2007 was given its current name.

"We rebranded from Secure-Res — which seemed more like just a reservations company — to Vizergy, a name that was a little more unique and that we could align with the breadth of services that we were providing to our clients," Hyman explained. "Today, we have a vast platform that we call the Vizergy Marketing System, and it's really an

VIZERGY continues on Page 39

# Are we still seeing multiple offers on houses?



Kathleen Florvan Guest Columnist

By Kathleen Floryan Ponte Vedra Club Realty

Special to the Recorder

Over the past couple of years, we've experienced multiple offer situations on lots of properties that were offered for sale. This happened for a number of reasons with one of the

most important reasons being SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

For those who are shopping for their dream home, it can be devastating to miss out on that home even after offering full asking price. During hot markets, the asking price often becomes the STARTING price, and the homes can sell for more than the seller was originally anticipating. Our local market is starting to cool. There are still multiple offer situations, but they are becoming less common.

A multiple offer situation is fine if you are selling your home, but it can be tough if you are a buyer. Positioning yourself correctly for any house purchase is key, and it can keep you from experiencing months and months of frustration.

One of the most important things for you to do is ensure that you are a RWA Buyer. That means Ready, Willing and Able. You should have a preapproval letter from a reputable lender (not something printed online) and be working with an agent that understands different types of home sales, offer preparation and the various disclosures or addendums that may be required.

FLORYAN continues on Page 39

# Christy Budnick appointed president and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR

#### Linda Sherrer to continue as chairman

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty (HSFNR) recently announced that Christy Budnick has been appointed president and chief executive

officer (CEO), assuming full executive leadership responsibilities of the firm.

The company's founder, Linda Sherrer, will continue as chairman. Sherrer will

#### focus on the company's corporate business development, builder services and company philanthropy.

"I admire Christy's passion, tenacity and leadership, and I know she will continue to lead Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty to new levels of success," Sherrer said. "The company has been under our dual leadership for many years, and I am confident Christy will build on our momentum. Her experience and vision ensure a very bright future for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty."

Sherrer has guided the company since its inception in 1988. Budnick joined the company in 2002 as branch manager of the company's Beaches office and was promoted to executive vice president of residential real estate in 2006. Prior to joining the firm, Budnick worked for Bank of America as its vice president of sales and leadership training.

"I am honored and humbled to continue the legacy created by my Mother," Budnick said. "She is my role model and I admire her vision, leadership style and strategic insight that have inspired our company's success. I look forward to continuing to lead Berkshire Hathaway



**Christy Budnick** 



Linda Sherrer

HomeServices Florida Network Realty to new levels of growth and performance with the best and brightest professionals in the business — our outstanding agents, world-class leadership team and talented employees."

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#### 3947 Cattail Pond Dr in Jax Golf & CC

Beautifully updated, single level 4BR/3.5BA home with paver driveway on quiet street with new driftwood tile floors in main living areas. Eat-in kitchen w/granite & ss appliances opens to family room w/fireplace & built-ins. Large screened lanai overlooks lush yard with plenty of room for pool, Newer roof, HVAC, water heater & water softener. MLS 955337



#### Plantation at PV \$1,075,000

Stunning 4BR/4.5BA home with incredible water to golf views from the floor to ceiling windows in the main living area. Barn doors open to family room w/built-ins & fireplace. Chef's kitchen w/oversized island, custom cabinetry, gas stove & ss double ovens. Casual dining area w/coffered ceiling overlooks pool with views of water to golf. MLS 951896 - Co-listed with Dawn Deehan



Pablo Beach S - Jax Beach

Live the salt life from this completely updated 3BR/3.5BA townhome directly across from the beach with ocean views. Stunning kitchen w/granite, custom cabinetry & ss appliances opens to dining area & great room w/ocean facing balcony. Master suite with fantastic ocean riews. Private backyard & outdoor shower. New roof & newer HVAC.



\$2,250,000

Catch every sunrise and sunset from this gorgeous 4BR/3.5BA pool home with walkway to the beach just across Ponte Vedra Blvd. Great room w/soaring ceilings, fireplace & expansive views of Guana Preserve. Kitchen w/Travertine floors, granite counters, ss appliances & ocean views. Master w/fireplace, stunning bath & more ocean views



#### Marsh Landing CC

Single level 4BR/3BA pool home with water to golf views on beauti-fully landscaped private lot with sweeping circular drive. Wonderful open floor plan with wood floors and plenty of windows to bring in the views. Fabulous eat-in kitchen with granite counters, custom cabinetry and ss appliances opens to family room with fireplace and built-ins. MLS 926094

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**144 Muirfield Drive** \$1.789.000 5BD/4BA/1HB 6,382 sq ft

Moorman & Rowe Group 904-810-8744 904-834-1557





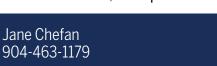
255 Deer Haven Drive \$2,449,000 4BD/4BA/1HB 7.734 sa ft

Nicholas Eklund 904-575-1197





502 Ponte Vedra Blvd \$5,995,000 6BD/6BA/2HB 6,192 sq ft





725 Spinnakers Reach Rd \$495,000 1BD/2BA 1,164 sq ft

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158 Muirfield Drive \$1,295,000 4BD/3BA/1HB 4,211 sq ft

Moorman & Rowe Group 904-810-8744 904-834-1557



The Legacy Trust team gathers at an open house celebration Thursday, Sept. 13 for its new office on **Marsh Landing Boulevard** in Jacksonville Beach. Shown here (from left) is Natalite John (seated), **CEO & Chairman Kristin** McLauchlan (seated), Kristi Quick (standing, far left), Debbie Burshett, TJ Fernandez, James Tronti, Chord McLaughlin, Marty Flack, Holly Tyrrell (seated), Laura McGarity, Suzzane Blake (seated) and Susan Tronti.

Photo courtesy of Mark Berman



## Legacy Trust hosts open house for new headquarters

#### By Jon Blauvelt

Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices hosted an open house celebration last Thursday, Sept. 13 to welcome members of the community to its new headquarters at 4200 Marsh Landing Boulevard in Jacksonville Beach.

The business moved to the new location after 16 years of sharing a headquarters with other businesses in the Veranda building on A1A in Ponte Vedra Beach.

"It's very exciting," Legacy Trust Chairman and CEO Kristin McLauchlan said about the new office. "I always dreamed of a building with our name on it. I'm super excited to have it actually

be a dream come true after 16 years."

Dictated by growth, the move to the newly-named Legacy Trust building affords the company a larger office footprint with room to add staff — and easier highway access to accommodate clients, existing and new.

McLauchlan said the office was designed to be inviting and warm and to set the firm apart from others.

"We don't want to look and feel like everybody else because we aren't like everybody else," she said. "I think being in this space that doesn't feel like a bank, and it doesn't feel like an investment management firm. It feels like, 'Welcome to our living room. This is what we do. We're going to cry with

you. We're going to smile with you. We're going to work hard for you.' And I think people really get that when they walk in the door."

In addition, McLauchlan noted the layout of the new office ensures clients are met with in private spaces at the front of the office to maximize confiden-

Overall, the Legacy Trust CEO said the move and new headquarters further enhances the credibility of the firm.

"It now feels like, ok we're ready for people to know who we are, we're ready to have our name out in the market place, we're ready for a little bit more splash," she said. "It's been a good move

## Freedom Boat Club earns fourth Best of St. Augustine Award

The St. Augustine franchise of the Freedom Boat Club based at the Camachee Cove Yacht Harbor — was recently presented with the 2018 Best of St. Augustine Award, making this year the fourth time the club has received the award.

Each year, the St. Augustine Award Program identifies top local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and community. This year, Freedom Boat Club was selected as St. Augustine's "Best Boat Rental and Charter Provider."

"We never want to take this award for granted," Freedom Boat Club's Lisa Almeida said. "To win year after year shows our commitment to customer service and to the community. Our St. Augustine location continues to grow in both members and the number of boats in our fleet."

Based in Venice, Florida, Freedom Boat Club is the nation's oldest and largest boating club, operating in more than 160 locations across the U.S. and Canada. The club has experienced a steady growth in membership based on its model of offering affordable, hassle-free boating for one monthly fee. Members not only have a choice of multiple boats at each location, but avoid



Photo courtesy of Kellv White

Freedom Boat Club in St. Augustine was recently presented with the 2018 Best of St. Augustine Award for Best Boat Rental and Charter Provider. Pictured from left: Freedom Boat Club co-owners **Kevin Seelig and Lisa Almeida** 

the typical frustrations associated with boat ownership: maintenance, repair, storage, cleaning, towing trailers and more.

In addition to Camachee Cove Marina in St. Augustine, Freedom Boat Club Jacksonville has locations at Julington Creek Marina in Jacksonville and Beach Marine in Jacksonville Beach. Members have unlimited access to the home club's fleet and can reserve a boat using a member-friendly online reservation system. For more information, visit www. freedomboatclub.com.

## RE/MAX **Unlimited** introduces Stockings 4 Kids program to St. Johns County

RE/MAX Unlimited is the proud lead partner for a new program launching in St. Johns County called Stockings 4 Kids, which gives Christmas stockings to children who are less fortunate in the com-

Created nine years ago in Lee County, Stockings 4 Kids bring the joy of Christmas to children who may go without a present during the holidays. Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County will be the first expansion of this program outside of Lee

"When I heard what Stockings 4 Kids has done in Lee County, I knew it was a program RE/MAX Unlimited needed to bring here," said Brenda Horst, broker/ owner of REMAX Unlimited. "We value our community and want to make a difference in the lives of the children here in St. Johns County. With Stockings 4 Kids, we are excited to make an impact at the holidays."

The hope for the first year is to raise enough funds to stuff 500 stockings. Each stocking is valued at \$15 and 100 percent of all contributions are used to fill the stockings. Support from the community will help make the first year a success. In early December, the stockings will be filled at Santa's Workshop during "Stuffing Day," where "elves" from the community (other children in the community who want to donate their time) will come in for a day of stuffing stockings. The elves will get to experience the magic of giving and can make a difference. Stockings 4 Kids is working with the Emergency Services & Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County to identify those organizations where the stockings will be delivered before the holidays.

Through the end of October, RE/MAX Unlimited will accept contributions from individuals and businesses in St. Johns County to fill the stockings. The businesses can sponsor one or more stockings or become a Santa, elf or Rudolph sponsor and receive recognition on the Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County website (stockings4kids.com/stockings-4-kids-st-johnscounty) and event T-shirts. Sponsors can download the sponsorship form and drop off or mail contributions to: Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County LLC, C/O RE/MAX Unlimited, 100 Corridor Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32282. For questions, more information or to find out how to become a sponsor, contact Laura Morey with Morey Public Relations at laura@moreypr.com

## Vizergy

all-inclusive ecommerce platform for the hospitality industry, where they can manage their website, analytics and reputation."

Among Vizergy's various offerings are web design services, reservation services, search engine optimization tools, social and online media assistance, email marketing services and more. Today, the company serves more than 1,400 clients in more than 20 countries, including local businesses like the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and One Ocean Resort & Spa, as well as internationally recognized brands like Hard Rock International, Marriott, Hyatt and The Melting Pot.

But while his company has certainly come a long way over the years, Hyman said his primary focus remains on the future, which he said will hopefully include expanding Vizergy's international client base to include more chain restaurants and hospitality spas.

"I really think about where we're going in the next five years, 10 years and try to look forward, and not back," he said. "I'm excited about the future, and that's really where I keep my eye."



Photo courtesy of Vizergy

**Vizergy Director of IT Solutions Eric Miller attends** the anniversary party with his children.

## Floryan Continued from 35

Another factor that can make a difference is raising your escrow deposit or good faith money. By showing a larger monetary deposit as opposed to competing offers, this can make the home sellers look at YOUR purchase offer in a better light against the competing offers.

An empathetic letter that compliments the home and talks a little bit about your situation and your sincerity can make a big difference too. Fortunately, even in this digital age, the real estate business is still a "people to people" transaction, so the more the seller knows about you, the more likely they may be to choose you as the purchaser.

Knowing the statistics of our market here in Ponte Vedra Beach (32082) is also critical in negotiating the best deal. Did you know the median sales price is hovering at \$600,000 for a single-family home, and the last list price to sale price ratio is between 95 percent to 96 percent (source: Realtyweb Northeast Florida MLS)? In other words, sellers can expect to see offers coming in between 4 to 5 percent off of asking price.

Again according to the Realtyweb Northeast Florida MLS, the average days on market in 32082 have risen from January 2018 at 100 days to August 2018 at 107 days. That is a far cry from what is happening in the western states where

existing housing is averaging seven to 10 days on market. In our Ponte Vedra Beach luxury market, there are at least 100 homes over \$1 million for sale, which is good news for the move-up buyer who is looking for choices! But this number of luxury homes also requires patience on the part of sellers to find the qualified buyer for the luxury property.

As homeowners begin to think about selling, questions regarding pricing strategy sometimes come into play. Several concepts are trending right now from pricing well above market value to take advantage of the lack of inventory to the opposite end of the spectrum, listing below market value to create a multiple offer situation. While some of the pricing strategies can possibly work, they also come with risks. You face appraisal issues when trying to sell too far above market value, and you risk stigmatizing your home at a lower value if that multiple offer situation doesn't come to fruition.

Additionally, there are two sides to this coin. When you are on the seller side of the equation, you really want to look at all offers with terms and conditions, rather than just the top line offer price. Sometimes the HIGHEST offer is not the BEST offer.

This is important to remember when you are on the BUY side because you may have the BEST offer without offering the HIGHEST price.

Kathleen Floryan is a broker associate with Ponte Vedra Club Realty.

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ONTE VEDRA BEACH 4/3/1 • \$2,250,000 Suzanne Stephens



PONTE VEDRA BEACH Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 3/3/1 • \$840,000 Patti Armstrong



INTRACOASTAL Belk Ingram



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 5/6/1 • \$1,699,000 Jo Mitchell



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 4/4/1 • \$1,275,000 Kathleen Floryan



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 3/2 • \$689,000 Patti Armstrong



4/4/1 • \$2,150,000 Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 1/1 • \$119,900 Olivia or Brent Seaman



PONTE VEDRA BEACH Sally Sergeant



PONTE VEDRA BEACH Brenda Patton



PONTE VEDRA BEACH Suzanne Schinsing



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 6/4 • \$899,000 Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



HILLIARD \$2,750,000 Acreage • \$2,750 Earl Parker



OCEANFRONT 2/2 • \$865,000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland



PONTE VEDRA BEACH Amanda Sergeant



JACKSONVILLE BCH 3/3/1 • \$649,000 Suzanne Stephens



PONTE VEDRA BCH \$975,000 Sally Sergeant



JACKSONVILLE BCH 3/2 • \$329,000 Olivia or Brent Seaman



**JACKSONVILLE** Suzanne Stephens



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 2/2 • \$210,900 Valerie Shaw



SEASCAPE Belk Ingram/Clara Sigmon



3/3/1 • \$2,150,000 Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



PONTE VEDRA Michael Curet

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## Toll Brothers offers big savings during National Sales event

Money-saving incentives and special financing for move-in ready homes available through Sept. 30

Toll Brothers is hosting a National Sales event through Sunday, Sept. 30.

For a limited time, buyers interested in select quick delivery and move-in ready homes can take advantage of special interest rates on financing from TBI Mortgage Company, an affiliate of Toll Brothers, or other incentives on cash purchases. These incentives can be used for a variety of savings such as special mortgage interest rates or applied toward design options or closing costs. These extra incentives are being offered exclusively to homebuyers on select quick move-in homes that have agreements signed after Aug. 18, and close on the home by Oct. 31 (some restrictions

During the National Sales Event, homebuyers can browse an expansive selection of home designs and find out about the list of national brand partners offering select savings on products featured in Toll Broth-

hosting the National Sales event include Toll Brothers at The Settlement at Twenty Mile, Coastal Oaks at Nocatee, Julington Lakes and Toll Brothers at Atlantic Beach Country Club.

Professional design consultants are available at Northeast Florida's regional Design Studio to provide one-on-one home design guidance through the selection process. Security and home control solutions are also available through TBI Smart Home Solutions.

To take advantage of the National Sales Event incentives, interested buyers must make a deposit before Sept. 30. Incentives vary among communities and will comprise a package of savings created specifically for this event, so buyers should contact their community of interest and speak with a sales representative to learn

For home buyers who would like to learn more about financing their purchase, TBI Mortgage has a selection of mortgage programs with interest rates, including both fixed rate and adjustable rate mortgages.

Visit TollSalesEventFL.com for more information.

#### THE CARLYLE



#### 600 Ponte Vedra Blvd., Unit 109

Step inside unit 109 at the Carlyle on the boulevard. Experience a spacious, sophisticated & beautifully designed home in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. This first floor unit is warm & inviting with 2,122 square feet, 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA & an abundance of windows throughout. The grand living room with a gas fireplace is flanked by built in bookcases & French doors. Savor your morning cup of coffee in your roomy kitchen & cozy dining space watching your favorite show. Invite your friends to join you at the beach just steps away & dine at one of Ponte Vedra's finest resorts! In the evening retire to your stunning ensuite master. You will agree that Ponte Vedra Living is simply the best! Offered for \$748,000.

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### Welcome Home to Ponte Vedra Beach!



Custom-built Marsh Landing home features 5BD, 6BA and over 6,000 sq. ft. This pool home is



Custom-built North Island masterpiece in Marsh Landing offers 5 bedrooms, 6 baths & over 6,000 sq. ft. You'll love the gorgeous views of the marsh, water and resort-style pool. MLS# 905244 /



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 / \$698,000



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 you floating slip awaits you, with direct access to the Intracoastal Waterway. MLS# 936445 / \$1,445,000



Looking to build your dream home in the beautiful Marsh Landing? This lot offers a full acre of gorgeous water views from every angle. (Also offered with Arthur Rutenberg rendering, see MLS# 922632) MLS# 920155 / \$478,500



Intracoastal waterfront paradise in the gated Queen's Harbor Country Club with pristine land, deep water access with space for 2 floating docks on 4.25 acres (1.25 acres are buildable). MLS# 874238 / \$1,950,000



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## Ribbon-cutting ceremony held to celebrate development of Northshore at Atlantic Beach

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Aug. 23 to celebrate the grand opening and groundbreaking of Northshore at Atlantic Beach.

Representatives from RE/MAX Specialists PV, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Mark Macco Architects, the developer, buyers who have already purchased a unit and several realtors attended the event.

Brand new in Atlantic Beach, Northshore at Atlantic Beach offers luxury beach living two blocks from the Atlantic Ocean and one block from the Atlantic Beach Town Center. The development will contain a total of 12 modern coastal designed town homes. Each unit is three stories and has three bedrooms, two-and-a-half bathrooms, a two-car garage, two balconies, a bottom floor patio and access to a private, gated courtyard. The units also feature high end finishes, including stainless steel appliances, a built-in fridge, quartz countertops and wide plank flooring. Additional guest parking is on site as well.

The estimated completion for Northshore at Atlantic Beach is summer 2019.

For more information, visit michaelmcafee.engagereagent.com/ Condo/301-AHERN-ST-Unit-UNIT-12-ATLANTIC-BEACH-FL-32233/NFF/952542.



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Representatives from RE/MAX Specialists PV, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Mark Macco Architects and others participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening and groundbreaking of Northshore at Atlantic Beach on Aug. 23.

**First Coast** residents enjoy the public grand opening of Shearwater's new neighborhood, The Falls, which included performances by Disc-Connected K9s.

> Photo courtesy of Dalton Agency



## Shearwater hosts public grand opening of The Falls

Shearwater, the new master-planned residential community on County Road 210, recently hosted a public grand opening of its newest neighborhood, The Falls, which includes new home sites, a four-acre park, a community garden, dog parks and extensive nature trails.

Over 1,700 individuals attended the free celebration, making it one of the biggest events in the community's history. Dozens of families experienced Shearwater from new heights with tethered hot air balloon rides, a farmer's market, performances by Disc-Connected K9s, live music and model home

"At Shearwater, we are dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of both our current residents and potential homebuyers, whether through new home sites or expanding amenities," said Suzanne Maddalon, vice president of marketing for Freehold Communities. "The Falls grand opening was the perfect opportunity to invite the public to experience Shearwater's unique lifestyle programming, while also showcasing our newest neighborhood."

The grand opening was held on Shearwater's newest and most expansive park, Falls Park, which is centrally located in The Falls, in the heart of Shearwater. Amenities include the Falls loop trail, Shearwater's first dog park that includes one fenced park for large dogs and one for smaller dogs and the first community garden for residents to plant flowers, herbs and vegetables year-round.

In addition to new amenities, The Falls also features homes by two home builders, Dream Finders Homes and David Weekley Homes. Dream Finders Homes, the newest addition to Shearwater's home builder team, is building homes on 50-foot lots starting at \$280,000. David Weekley Homes is building its popular 40-foot lot Coastal Cottage Homes, which have 10 different floorplans for potential homebuyers to choose from.

Shearwater is located at 206 Shearwater Parkway in St. Augustine. To learn more about Shearwater, visit the Kayak Club, located at 100 Kayak Way or visit www.shearwaterliving.com.

### Hundreds attend Tapas & Tours progressive luncheon at Beacon Lake

More than 165 realtors recently attended the Tapas & Tours progressive luncheon and model home tour at Beacon

Tapas & Tours guests mingled and enjoyed gourmet fare as they toured the community's five furnished and decorated model homes showcasing the latest in-home design trends. Guests enjoyed giveaways and prize drawings. Following Tapas & Tours, organizers donated the event's remaining food to two groups of first responders.

"We are thrilled so many agents could join us for our special event and we appreciate the positive response we received from our guests," said Bruce J. Parker, managing director for BBX Capital Real Estate, Beacon Lake's master developer. "Everyone loves our builders' award-winning home designs and our welcoming neighborhood environment. Beacon Lake is quickly taking shape and we are excited about the opening of the community's onsite amenities in the near future."

The new master-planned community in St. Johns County offers a lakefront lifestyle and family-friendly amenities. At Beacon Lake, Dream Finders Homes and Mattamy Homes are building coastalinspired homes featuring welcoming front porches and open floor plans.

Slated for completion and grand opening in early 2019, the 8,200-square-foot Lake House Amenity and Fitness Center will be the heart of Beacon Lake and home to fun and fitness. Anchored by a 43-acre paddle-friendly lake and nestled within 358 acres of nature preserve, Beacon Lake's nautically themed gathering place will provide opportunities for

indoor and outdoor recreation - and relaxation -— for every member of the family.

Residents will be able to cool off at the Splash Park, fun pool, junior Olympic swimming pool or lakeside sand beach. They can also launch a paddleboard, kayak or canoe, and lift weights, practice yoga or complete a cardio circuit in the fitness center.

Residents can learn how to cook something new in the Culinary Studio and Demonstration kitchen, which is also available for catered events in the social room, or hit the tennis courts, kick around a soccer ball or play catch on the multipurpose playing field. The dockside Crew House will provide kayak, canoe and paddleboard storage, and the dog park will offer Beacon Lake's furry residents and their owners a place to exercise, socialize and play. Other amenities include a neighborhood park, multipurpose paths for walking, jogging and bicycling and

In Beacon Lake's Phase 1, Dream Finders Homes and Mattamy Homes are offering home designs ranging in size from 1,600 square feet to more than 3,500 square feet, and priced from the mid-\$200,000s to \$500,000s. Dream Finders is building on 43- and 63-footwide homesites, and Mattamy Homes is building on 53- and 73-foot-wide

Located on the south side of County Road 210 between U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 95, Beacon Lake is near shopping, dining, employment centers and area beaches. For more information about Beacon Lake, visit www.BeaconLake.com.



#### COLDWELL BANKER VANGUARD **Featured Properties** 240 Ponte Vedra Park Dr. Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



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24649 Harbour View Dr. 5 BED/6.5 BATH, 6000 sq. ft. with 50' floating boat \$1,950,000 | Call Judy Ham



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223 Cranes Lake Dr. 2 BED/2 BATH 1208 sq. ft. Lake views \$180,000 | Call Peyton Stockton



349 Royal Tern Rd. S. 5 BED/4 BATH 4571 sq. ft. on golf course with pool \$610,000 | Call Daryl Atkins or Jeanie Leapley



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2969 Ponte Vedra Blvd. 4 BED/4 BATH 2974 sq. ft. \$1,425,000 | Call Mark Ryan



8143 Mar Del Plata St. E. 4 BED/ 2.5 BATH 3254 sq. ft. \$549,000 | Call Cindey Nordman



113 Buck Island Court 4 BED/ 2 BATH 2176 sq. ft. \$489,800 | Call Cindey Nordman



525 N. Third St., #305 3 BED/2 BATH Condo, 2 blocks from ocean 1620  $\$\hat{4}75,000$  | Call Michelle Kelly



130 32nd Avenue South  $5\,\mathrm{BED}/4.5\,\mathrm{BATH}$  custom beach pool home with 4493sq. ft. WOW! Under market reduction \$60k...Come Sea! \$1,590,000 | Call Connie Mabry



171 Woodlands Creek Drive 4 BED/3.5 BATH, 4941 sq. ft. with 3.5 Car Garage, Pool \$739,000 | Call Joni Zwick



341 Eagle Rock Drive 4 BED/3 BATH, 2835 sq. ft. with 3.5 Car Garage, Plumbed for Pool \$535,000 | Call Joni Zwick



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13703 Saxon Lake Dr. 3 BED/3 BATH 3470 sq. ft. on corner lot \$650,000 | Call Mandy Morrow



344 S. Nine Dr. 4 BED/3 BATH 3200+ sq. ft. on corner lot \$850,000 | Call Mandy Morrow



102 Lake Julia Dr. N. 3 BED/3 BATH, 1986 sq. ft. \$536,000 | Call Mandy Morrow



(904) 338-3230 markryan@cbvfl.com



Jacquelyn Bates (904) 626-8295 jacquelyn@jacquelynbates.com



Ioni Zwick (904) 910-7607 JoniZwickPVB@gmail.com



Cindey Nordman (904) 599-6469 cnordman@cbvfl.com



Michelle Kelly (904) 392-3052

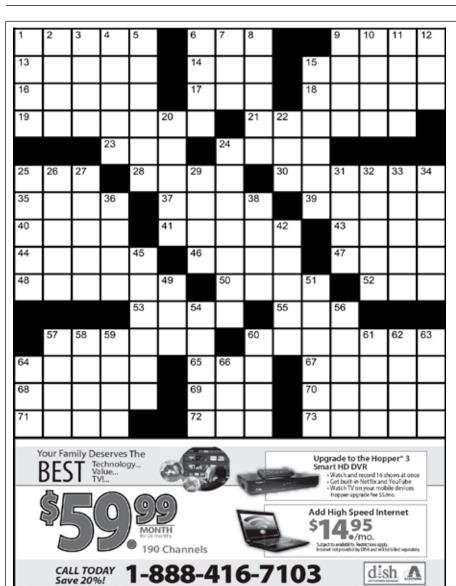


Connie Mabry (904) 866-5000 mabrycoldwellbanker@yahoo.com



Mandy Morrow (904) 229-7825 mandy@coldwellbankerpvb.com

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#### **THEME: MARINE LIFE**

- , over here"
- 13. #18 Across, alt. sp.
- 15. Misrepresent
- ticket
- 21. \*SquarePants
- 23. \*Female #19 Across
- 25. Medicinal baths
- 28. Microsoft browser
- and Mary
- 37. Like word of mouth 39. Truth, in the olden
- for Clinical Investigation
- 43. Title for Turkish leader
- pieces
- 47. Alexander Hamilton

- 52. Before, in verse
- 53. Fire starter, in a pinch

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Capital of Tunisia 6. Gumshoe
- 14. Busy one
- 16." One" on a
- mode 18. Become hardened
- to 19. \*Pinching crustacean
- 24. Frigid shipping hazard
- locale
- 30. Peter of Peter, Paul
- 35. Stay out of its way!
- 40. American Society
- 41. \*a.k.a. solvent of life
- 44. Woodwind mouth-
- 46. Large, prefix
- vs. Aaron Burr, e.g.
- 48. Alaskan archipelago
- 50. Agitate

- 55. Lamb serving 57. \*Star of Raffi's song
- 60. \*Where ocean meets river
- 64. Not a trick
- 67. It is best not mentioned

65. Boozehound

- 68. Eagle's nest 69. Grass bristle
- 70. Japan to U.S. in WW2
- 71. Gwyneth, for short 72. Actress \_
- Thompson 73. Official state sport of Wyoming

#### **DOWN**

- 1. \*Ocean color, bluish green
- 2. Ctrl + Z
- 3. Like after a novo-
- caine shot 4. March marchers
- 5. Parlor piece 6. Alpine transport
- 7. \*Snake-like fish
- \_-fire
- 9. Teller's partner 10. Terrestrial gastro-
- pod . 11 Make children
- 12. Kickoff prop
- 15. Methane
- 20. Furnish with a fund
- 22. Be nosy 24. "Egg \_
- substitute
- 25. \*Thresher 26. Promenade in Spain
- 27. Formed a curve
- 29. SI unit of mass

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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

31. Beatles'"Abbey

One: A Star Wars Story"

33. Not the same one

- 34. \*Giant mammal 36. Calf-length skirt
- 38. Toy block 42. Train runners
- 45. "Yes, Sir!" gesture
- 49. Party barrel 51. It's "sealed with a

- 54. Like allergy spray 56. \*Excrement of sea birds
- 57. Tea or beer 58. Strange and spooky
- 59. Been in bed
- 60. Volcano in Sicily 61. Tucked in
- 62. Capital of bootshaped country
- 63. Walk-the-dog toy
- 64. "You're it" game 66. Be obliged



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APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED







Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Len and Sonya Cutter, Lindy Hart, Madeline Kisting and Matthew and Mark Cutter gather in front of a scale model of Frederick Hart's "Ex Nihilo" at the opening reception for the Frederick Hart exhibition at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art's Ponte Vedra Beach gallery.

# Cutter & Cutter displays extensive collection of sculptor Frederick Hart

#### By Jon Blauvelt

For the next month, Cutter & Cutter Fine Art will display the world's largest collection of work of one of America's most influential sculptors at its gallery in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Opened to the public the weekend of Sept. 7-8, the exhibition features some of the most iconic pieces of Frederick Hart, a National Medal of Arts recipient. Included in the exhibition are a scale model of "The Three Soldiers," which is the bronze statue on the Washington, D.C., National Mall commemorating the Vietnam War; a scale model of "Ex Nihilo;" which adorns the Washington National Cathedral; "Study of the Artist's Wife;" "The Source 1/2 Life;" and many more. The exhibition will be on display at the Ponte Vedra Beach gallery

until mid-October.

Lindy Hart, the wife of the late Frederick Hart, and Madeline Kisting, the former agent of the acclaimed sculptor, attended the opening reception for the exhibit and both expressed their approval.

"It was very impressive to see all of this work together in one beautiful gallery," Lindy Hart said. "Some of the pieces I haven't seen for a while, so it was really nice to reacquaint myself with some of the pieces."

Kisting echoed those sentiments.

"I think the thoughtful presentation in how they married pieces together and their placement told a really wonderful, complete story," she said. "It was just a very thoughtful presentation."

**CUTTER & CUTTER** continues on **Page 48** 



"The Source: Bust" by Frederick Hart

## Cowford Chophouse partners with Jacksonville Symphony to support youth orchestras

The Cowford Chophouse has partnered with the Jacksonville Symphony to participate in a matching grant initiative of \$1,500 in support of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras (JSYO).

The Cowford Chophouse will donate 15 percent of all proceeds from its specially crafted Stir Your Soul cocktail and hold various events throughout the Symphony's 2018/19 season to reach its fundraising goal.

JSYO are Northeast Florida's leading developmental orchestral ensembles that teach young musicians the values of hard work, discipline and teamwork. Founded in 1993, JSYO serves more than 400 talented musicians from Northeast Florida through six levels of musical instruction and performance opportunities each school year.

"At Cowford, we believe that music is incredibly impactful for all community members, especially children," Cowford Chophouse owner Jacques Klempf said. "JSYO engages young members of our community to provide them with inspiring and enriching cultural experiences. We are proud to support an organiza-

tion that is such a wonderful asset to the Jacksonville First Coast."

Cowford Chophouse guests are encouraged to order and enjoy the Stir Your Soul cocktail, which will be available throughout the Symphony's 2018-19 season. Stir Your Soul is a blend of Belvedere Single Estate Rye vodka, Bauchant Orange Liqueur, Giffard Créme de Violette, lemon juice and simple syrup.

"Music has the power to transform

**COWFORD** continues on **Page 47** 

## Jacksonville Symphony to perform the music of John Williams

With three upcoming concerts to take place Friday, Sept. 21 and Saturday, Sept. 22, the Jacksonville Symphony will host a celebration of the music of John Williams — one of the most prolific film score composers of all time — that will include performances of selections from such cinematic classics as the "Star Wars," "Harry Potter" and "Superman" films.

In a career spanning more than five decades, Williams has become one of America's most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage, and he remains one of the nation's most distinguished and contributive musical voices. He has composed the music and served as music director for more than 100 films, including all eight "Star Wars" films, the first three "Harry Potter" films, "Superman," "JFK," "Born on the Fourth of July," "Memoirs of a Geisha," "Far and Away," "The Accidental Tourist," "Home Alone" and "The Book Thief." His 45-year artistic partnership with director Steven Spielberg has resulted in many of Hollywood's most acclaimed and successful films, including "Schindler's List," "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," "Jaws," "Jurassic Park," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," the "Indiana Jones" films. "Munich," "Saving Private Ryan," "The Adventures of Tintin," "War Horse" and "Lincoln."

Williams has received five Academy Awards and 50 Oscar nominations, making him the Academy's most-nominated living person and the second-most nominated person in the history of the Oscars. He has received seven British Academy Awards (BAFTA), 23 Grammys, four Golden Globes, five Emmys and numerous gold and platinum records. In 2016, he received the 44th Life Achievement Award from the American Film Institute—the first time in history that honor was bestowed upon a composer.

Two performances will take place Friday, Sept. 21: a one-hour Raymond James Coffee Series concert at 11 a.m. and a full Fidelity Financial Pops Series concert at 8 p.m. The Saturday, Sept. 22 performance will be at 8 p.m. All concerts will take place in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in Jacoby Symphony Hall in Jacksonville.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the ticket office at (904) 354-5547 or visit www.jaxsymphony.org.





Photos courtesy of Stellers Gallery

Artwork by Erin Gregory (left) and Shawn Meharg will be on display at Stellers Gallery at Ponte Vedra Beach for the fall show. An opening reception will take place Friday, Oct. 5 from 6 to 9 p.m.

## Stellers Gallery show features fine art painters Erin Gregory, Shawn Meharg

Stellers Gallery at Ponte Vedra Beach will exhibit the work of nationally recognized painters Erin Gregory and Shawn Meharg with an opening reception on Friday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 9 p.m. at 240 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach. The show will feature a new body of work by each of the two artists.

As a gallery favorite, Gregory's focus as an artist emphasizes contrast and variety within the composition of each painting. She vividly captures the light and color of her subjects in florals, landscapes and figures. She paints in acrylic and oil with close-up and distant bold colors, and lively layers and washes. Throughout Gregory's career, she has had numerous one-woman shows and participates in many group exhibitions. Gregory has received numerous awards for her art and has been featured on many blogs and in a variety of magazines.

Meharg has been showing at Stellers Gallery since beginning his fine art career. As

another gallery favorite, his work focuses on the making of art, which aids him in recalling forgotten moments of his past. The traces of time represented in the paintings are often occurrences or interactions with people or nature as formative snapshots in an elaborate sequence of events, leading to the present. Meharg worked as a theatrical scenic artist and designer throughout many branches of the entertainment industry and began his journey as an artist in 2001. His work shows a diversity of style and subject, all involving the reflection and absorption of light.

Stellers Gallery at Ponte Vedra is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (904) 273-6065; visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ stellersgalleryatpontevedra; visit the Instagram page at www.instagram.com/stellersgallerypontevedra; or visit the website at www.stellersgallery.com.

## Alhambra announces 2019 season schedule

The Alhambra Theatre & Dining recently announced its slate of shows for the 2019 theatrical season. The schedule is as follows:

Jan. 9 to Feb. 10: "Godspell"

Feb. 20 to March 24: "Mid-Life! Crisis The Musical"

March 27 to May 5: "Big The Musical" May 8 to June 9: "Ain't Misbehavin"

June 12 to July 28: Disney's "The Little Mermaid"

Aug. 7 to Sept. 15: "Mamma Mia!"

Sept. 18 to Oct. 13: "Brighton Beach Memoirs"

Oct. 23 to Nov. 24: "Jekyll & Hyde" Nov. 27 to Dec. 24: "It's a Wonderful Life"

"We've got something for everyone in 2019 and everything for many," said Alhambra Managing Partner Craig Smith, who is celebrating 10 years at the helm of the dinner theater. "It's really a fun mix of classic shows like 'Ain't Misbehavin' and some titles that we haven't done before like 'Big The Musical."

Smith noted that the theme of this season was picked to tie in the Alhambra's culinary success. Six years ago, he changed the food service from a buffet to table service, creating a more fluid and relaxed experi-

"People come here for a mini vacation," Smith said. "They don't want to get their own food at a buffet. Our job is to make memories, and that speaks to the dining portion of the Alhambra as well as the shows. We committed 10 years ago to an enhanced guest experience from the moment one arrives until they depart, and now food and show are equal stars."

Sales numbers would indicate Smith and his partners, Bill Barnett, Karl Frisch and Fraser Burns, have delivered on their promise. In 2009, the theater seated less than 50,000 guests and had fewer than 1,200 subscribers. In 2017, the theater welcomed more than 110,000 guests and now has nearly 5,000 subscribers, now referred to as "Season Partners."

The Alhambra celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017, complete with a Mayoral Proclamation on its official birthday, Dec. 15. The Alhambra employs more than 70 people. In addition to its Broadway-quality shows, the Alhambra has added a sub-brand called "Alhambra After Dark" under Smith's watch, which features a live music series as well as comedy and magic shows. The Alhambra is often rented during the day for business meetings and conferences and has hosted weddings and birthday parties.

"Time really does fly when you're having fun," Smith added. "This was the fastest decade of my life. I have met so many wonderful people. It is amazing how this theater has touched the hearts of its guests and been a memorable part of their lives for three generations. The future is bright for this old girl, and we are all as enthusiastic today as we were 10 years ago."

### Cowford

and provide a foundation of confidence in a young person's life," Symphony President and CEO Robert Massey said. "Partnering with the Cowford Chophouse to raise funds for the JYSO will help us continue to provide countless opportunities for young musicians in the Jackson-

As part of the partnership with the Symphony, the Cowford Chophouse will host a series of events, including a Symphony Ensemble Concert, Symphony in 60 "after party" and pop-up performances. For additional information about the events and to purchase tickets for the Symphony in 60 performance — an abbreviated concert experience that lasts approximately 60 minutes — visit www. jaxsymphony.org.



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## HART / RODIN

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Hart with Daughters of Odessa, clay: Rodin with figure from The Three Shades, plaster

## Separated by 100 years, united by the power of the human figure.

Revolutionary in upholding the tradition of the human figure, both Rodin and Hart challenged the established styles of their day, and in doing so, revolutionized sculpture for their time. Celebrating the concept that Rodin and Hart, as artistic bookends to the 19th and 20th century, were both on the forefront of a major cultural shifts of their day. This exhibition adds the perspective of time and history shedding new light on Hart's all-encompassing contribution to sculpture and shows both his artistic and personal connections to Rodin.









Images L to R (top): Hart's Adam, Rodin's The Thinker Images L to R (bottom): Hart's Washington National Cathedral - central tympanum (Ex Nihilo and Adam), Rodin's Gates of Hell



Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Ponte Vedra Beach 333 Village Main Street "Sawgrass Village" **904.395.3759** 

www.cutterandcutter.com



"The Three Soliders" by Frederick Hart

### **Cutter & Cutter**

Continued from 46

The exhibition also explores the parallels between Hart and another historically significant sculptor, Auguste Rodin. Both artists are considered bookends of the 20th century in their field and experienced similar career paths to their ultimate success of making the human figure "sublime."

"They're going after the same goal even though they're separated by all this time," Matthew Cutter said. "When you look stylistically, they don't look identical, but they still give you an energy to the work. You can appreciate both styles."

Overall, Cutter said the exhibition is a "must see" for people in the community.

"If you don't visit these artists now and you see these styles, imagine if it fell away out of history," he said. "You're going to see it revisited through another artist's eyes in that contemporary time that they lived. ... Somebody who sculpts classical now in the 21st century is going to look at it different compared to somebody who sculpted classical in the 19th century, because they have different sensibilities. That's why it's definitively important. You don't want to lose that."



# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 • PAGE 49

Tickets for THE PLAYERS

Championship now on sale

PAGE 50

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## Sharks dominate in 34-14 win over Westside



Photo by Jerry Norton

 $\textbf{Ponte Vedra's} \ Ethan \ Baur \ tackles \ a \ West side \ ball \ carrier \ during \ last \ Friday's \ game.$ 



The Ponte Vedra Recorder recently interviewed cross country runner Gabriella Berardi of Ponte Vedra High School for the first edition of the Athlete of the Week series. Berardi discussed her most important accomplishment, how she has improved over the years and what advice she would give a fledgling runner.

### What does it mean to you to run on the PVHS cross country team?

Well, we do a lot of training and a lot of running. It's really, really hard. In my opinion, it's one of the hardest sports but it always really pays off. What's great about it is how big of a team it is and how supportive everyone is, so that's a huge part of what it means to be on cross country.

### How much have you improved since first starting out?

The first 5K that I ever ran was in



Gabriella Berardi Cross Country, Ponte Vedra High School

ninth grade and it was a popsicle run at our school and I ran a 28:56. I almost thought about not doing cross country anymore but I kept at it and this year my first race I had a 1:56 PR (personal record) from last season and I ran a 21:38, so I've come really far from that first 5K.

Visit www.pontevedrarecorder.com to read more and watch a video of the interview with Berardi.

#### **By Jerry Norton**

Special to the Recorder

The visiting Wolverines of Westside were no match for the Sharks last Friday as Ponte Vedra finished on top 34-14. Held at the Shark Tank, the Sept. 14 game was more lopsided than the final score would indicate with Ponte Vedra completely controlling play for the first three quarters.

In the first half alone, the Sharks' offense ran 42 plays covering 116 yards, compared to 15 plays for just nine yards by Westside. The Wolverines had difficulty keeping control of the football in the first 24 minutes, turning it over on two fumbles and throwing an interception. Shane Bloss and Ethan Baur recovered the first half fumbles for the Sharks, and linebacker Aiden Dunnigan had the interception.

The Sharks wasted no time getting on the scoreboard. After a turnover on downs

by the visitors, Jacobi Myers engineered an 8-play 66-yard dive that ended with a 15-yard run up the middle by the quarterback. On the next play from scrimmage, Dunnigan's pick gave the Sharks possession, and they turned it into a 27-yard field goal by Raj Patel and a 10-0 lead. Ponte Vedra extended the lead to 13-0 early in the second quarter when Patel hit a 45-yard field goal.

Westside completed its first first down of the game at the start of the second quarter but had to punt the ball away after three plays. The Sharks also had to punt, but another Westside fumble gave Ponte Vedra a first down at the 15-yard line of the Wolverines. The big red defenders stiffened, forcing another field goal attempt from 31 yards, which sailed wide left. Ponte Vedra got the ball right back when Shane Bloss

SHARKS continues on Page 50



Nease defenders, including Dequan
Thompson
(25) and Zach
Harmon (54),
tackle White
running back
Isaiah Flowers
during last
Friday's game.

Photos by Jeff Heinemann/ The Image Caddy

## After rough start, Nease focusing on fundamentals

#### **By Paris Moulden**

It's not been an easy road for Nease so far this season. The Panthers fell to visiting White 48-13 in its district opener last Friday night.

Nease has been dealing with some injuries and having to rotate positions but focusing on fundamentals is key, said Panthers coach Tim Krause.

"While we have a number of injuries this year, our focus point as we reach during the middle of the season is to continue to improve fundamentally," Krause said in an email. "The group that we are playing with has continued to play hard and to fight for each other, but we need to improve in a number of fundamental areas

o be successful."

Nease (0-4, 0-1 District 4-6A) will go on the road and face Creekside Friday at 7 p.m. The Knights are averaging 38 points per game and are coming off a 72-40 win over Episcopal.

"On the defensive side, we need to do a better job with our eye discipline and tackling," Krause said. "Creekside is a well-coached offensive team that will force us to fit runs properly, tackle well in space, and have great eye discipline on vertical routes and play-action. In order to play a complete game defensively, we will need to improve in those areas throughout the week."

Many of the issues plaguing the Panthers

PANTHERS continues on Page 51

## THE PLAYERS Championship 2019 tickets now available

Tickets are currently available for THE PLAYERS Championship 2019, which returns to TPC Sawgrass March 12-17, 2019.

Tickets for THE PLAYERS can be purchased at THEPLAYERS.com, and day-specific grounds ticket pricing is as follows:

- Tuesday, March 12: \$25
- Wednesday, March 13: \$25
- Thursday, March 14: \$60
- Friday, March 15: \$70
- Saturday, March 16: \$70
- Sunday, March 17: \$70
- Weekly: \$240

Of the 144-man field, 125 players have already qualified via the top 125 from the 2017-2018 regular season FedExCup standings, with names like Dustin Johnson, Brooks Koepka, Justin Thomas, Phil Mickelson, Rory McIlroy, Webb Simpson and Bryson DeChambeau atop the list as they compete for the coveted FedExCup trophy and the \$10 million that comes with it.

Among those who finished in the top 125 in the standings was Tiger Woods, who earned a spot in the 2018 field at THE PLAYERS due to the five-year exemption that exists for past champions of the event. Thanks to strong play in his final events of the regular season which included three top-six finishes in his final four events — Woods entered the playoffs at No. 20 in the standings, making him eligible to play in 2019.

#### Chip in for Youth tickets also available

THE PLAYERS' Chip in for Youth ticket program has also launched. Through the program, any local youthrelated charitable organizations or schools have the opportunity to promote the sale of a discounted, \$55 "Good-Any-One-Day" ticket to THE PLAYERS (competition round tickets regularly start at \$60). For each ticket sold, \$30 will be directly donated back to the organization. The remaining net proceeds, after fees, will be donated to The First Tee, a

nonprofit golf organization focused on teaching life skills through the game of

"It has been amazing to see how much this program has grown since it first launched in 2011," said Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS Championship. "In 2018, 222 organizations participated in the program, generating \$575,450 for local charities — a 628 percent increase in money generated since inception. On behalf of THE PLAYERS team, it is an honor to have this tournament serve as a platform to help local organizations raise funds and positively impact lives in Northeast Florida and beyond."

THE PLAYERS created a bonus pool for the organizations that sell the most tickets, with a \$10,000 bonus for first place and \$5,000 for second-place. To participate, youth-related organizations can register at www.chipinforyouth.com. This year's program runs through March

#### Other news from THE PLAYERS

Hospitality venue tickets are also available for purchase including The Benefactor, The Turn, THE PLAYERS Club and many more. Information about hospitality venues at THE PLAYERS can be found at THEPLAYERS. com/hospitality.html or by emailing joshmendelson@pgatourhq.com.

Also for the 2019 tournament, THE PLAY-ERS will continue to provide all career military (active duty, reserve, military retirees and dependents) with complimentary admission to the tournament all week and discounted admission for veterans.

Parking is not included with ticket purchases Thursday through Sunday. All parking on Tuesday and Wednesday is free. Parking will be available for purchase later in the year. Visit THEPLAYERS.com/park for more information.

Volunteer registration begins Nov. 5. Those who wish to apply to be a volunteer at THE PLAYERS this year or who want more information can visit THEPLAYERS volunteers.com.

More information about THE PLAYERS is available at THEPLAYERS.com.

### Sharks

fell on the Westside fumble. Subsequently, quarterback Jack Murrah hit receiver Kyle Barker on a 5-yard slant for a touchdown,

which made the score 20-0 at the break.

The Sharks took the second-half kickoff and scored in five plays, the last a 14-yard strike from Myers to Logan Conway for a 27-0 lead. It wasn't long before the Wolverines put the ball on the ground again. This time, Connor McDonough recovered. Myers immediately hit Barker running open down the right sideline for a 20-yard score and a 34-0 advantage. At this point, coach Matt Toblin substituted freely on both sides of the ball, and except for two late touchdowns by Westside, the game

passes for 130 yards and two touchdowns. Murrah hit on 8 of 12 passes for 78 yards and a touchdown. Barker caught 6 of 9 passes for 94 yards and two touchdowns. On defense, Garrett Griffin, Baur and Mc-Donough each had six total tackles.

This week, Ponte Vedra (4-0) hosts Pedro Menendez (3-1) at 7 p.m.



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was over. Statistically, Myers completed 8 of 12



Photo by Jerry Norton

Ponte Vedra quarterback Jack Murrah looks for an open receiver against Westside.



## Harlem Legends Hoops & Health Celebrity Basketball Show to be held Sept. 29 at PVHS

#### **By Benjamin Naim**

The Harlem Legends will take on the St. Johns County All Stars at the Hoops & Health Celebrity Basketball Show on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 5 p.m. at Ponte Vedra High School.

Before showtime, the event will begin with a basketball clinic at 3 p.m. and a VIP Meet & Greet at 4 p.m. Former Harlem Globetrotter and Harlem Legends founder Michael Douglas said he has traveled to over 100 countries entertaining crowds and sharing a positive message.

"We offer this show through the Michael Douglas Youth Foundation," Douglas said. "The show is offered as a community event, Globetrotter-style."

The Legends consist of various professional athletes including former Harlem Globetrotters, American Olympians and former players in the NBA and NFL, among others. Participants will include

Larry "Shorty" Coleman, Tyrone" Hollywood" Brown, Trey Moore, DJ Henley, Antron Pippen, Antoin Jones, Elbert "Tree" Gordon, Tyrone Randolph, Robert Wilson, announcer Mike Glenn and referee Jimmy Bolden.

Ponte Vedra High School Athletic Director Eric Frank, Ponte Vedra High School Principal Fred Oberkehr, YMCA Athletic Director Phil Tensley and others will comprise the St. Johns County All

"We're always looking to bring positive events to different communities across the country," Douglas said. "Coming into Ponte Vedra, we're happy to be able to bring this positive community event. What we're doing is reaching out to different schools and speaking to students with our positive messages about how they too can achieve their dreams and goals.'

The Legends work with schools, churches and other organizations to

entertain crowds and share an encouraging message. The group is also focused on teaching kids to stay active and maintain their physical fitness.

"We've talked to them about the importance of good physical fitness and good health," he said. "By them seeing the adults running up and down the court, they can see the importance of continuing to incorporate exercise into their daily lives."

Proceeds from the basketball show will benefit the Michael Douglas Youth Foundation, founded in 1991; the Ponte Vedra High School Athletic Department; the Ponte Vedra YMCA and the Ponte Vedra High School volleyball team.

For more information on the Hoops & Health Celebrity Basketball Show, visit www.harlemlegends.com. Tickets are available at the Ponte Vedra YMCA, Ponte Vedra High School Athletic Department or through the Harlem Legends website.

on focusing on the things that we can constretch of district play in a few weeks."



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are beyond the team's control, but Krause is encouraged by the team's dedication and

willingness to work and focus on what's ahead.

"Despite our struggles early in the year, our kids have continued to practice hard and worked to improve," he said. "Our coaches have worked, especially this week,

trol and being a better team fundamentally. Our senior class has a number of fighters who will continue to work to make this an ascending football team by the home

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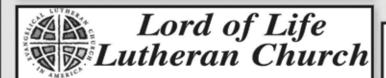
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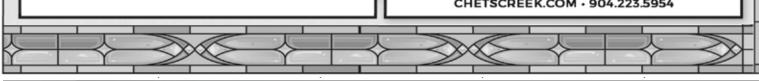
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## Skin Care Awareness



## The great sunscreen debate: Which type is best for you?

**By Joshua Patton,** doctor of osteopathic medicine candidate 2019, **and Megan Barber,** doctor of pharmacy candidate 2019 Special to the Recorder

Sunlight consists of UVA and UVB radiation. The UVA rays penetrate deeper into the skin and cause premature skin aging. Alternatively, UVB rays are what cause our skin to "tan" and "burn." Although each causes its own damage, both are linked with skin cancer. For this reason, we should apply broad-spectrum sunscreen to all exposed skin every time we go outside.

Research shows one of five Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer. The three main types of skin cancer are basal cell carcinoma (BCC), squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and malignant melanoma (MM). BCC is the most common and fortunately has the least chance to metastasize. SCC is the next most common and has a minimal chance of spreading. MM, however, is the worst of the three and has the highest chance of metastasizing. Most importantly, using sunscreen can decrease the incidence of all three.

What we know as "sunscreen" actually falls into the broad category of photoprotective agents. The two main photoprotective agents are sunblock, which is opaque and "blocks" the sun; and sunscreen, which is translucent and must be reapplied frequently. Two important ingredients

Melinda Greenfield, DO

**Board Certified Dermatologist** 



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.cor

to look for in a sunblock are titanium dioxide and zinc oxide. Both act by reflecting UV rays and do not degrade in sunlight. For this reason, they are recommended for use in children and those with sensitive skin. Newer zinc oxide and titanium dioxide containing products are micronized, which allows them to "disappear" into dark skin. Alternatively, avobenzone is the best-known chemical in sunscreens, and is the most widely used organic ingredient. When purchasing photoprotective agents, ingredients to avoid are para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA), oxybenzone, homosalate and octinoxate. People with allergy-prone skin, acne, or rosacea should avoid products with fragrances as these may exacerbate their conditions. For dry skin, choose a sunscreen with moisturizers such as lanolin, oils or dimethicone.

For minimal sun exposure such as walking to your car, SPF 15 is sufficient. With extended time in the sun, SPF 30 or greater is advised. Additionally, although a product may be water- or sweat-resistant, it is still recommended to apply at least 30 minutes before sun exposure and reapply every two hours or after toweling off. The two biggest reasons sunscreens fail is under application and failure to reapply. A normal-sized adult should use one ounce (capacity of a shot glass) of sunscreen each application to cover from head to toe. The most commonly uncovered parts are feet, upper back, bikini area and hands.

In conclusion, the best advice to avoid premature skin aging and the risk of skin cancer is to avoid direct sun exposure between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., reapply sunscreen at least every two hours, spend most of your time in the shade while outside and wear a wide-brimmed hat and long sleeves when in the sun. The next time you go to the store, remember the best sunscreen is whichever one you will consistently use.

Joshua Patten is a fourth-year medical student hoping to obtain a residency in dermatology. Megan Barber is a fourth-year pharmacy student. Patten is a student of Dr. Melinda Greenfield, a local dermatologist in Ponte Vedra Beach who is an associate professor at the GA PCOM campus in Atlanta. Her office in Ponte Vedra is located at 520 A1A North, Suite 230, near the Ponte Vedra Library. She welcomes adults and children of all ages to her practice.



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(Next to the Library)

## The Spa at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club hosts 'Around the Spa'

For the third straight year, the Spa at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club hosted its multivendor event, "Around the Spa."

Held on Aug. 23, the event provided guests the opportunity to interact with the various on-site vendors, which included Obagi, GM Collin, Clarisonic, Skin-Medica, Jane Iredale, Dr. Dennis Gross, Farm House Fresh, Zents and more. Upon arrival, guests received a passport indicating all of the vendors there. In each treatment room, a different vendor offered something special to guests. New this year were Zents Mini Treatments offered by founder Cord Coen.

Guests also enjoyed complimentary wine and appetizers including salads,









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