

Ponte Vedra Recorder



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75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

JUDGE JEANINE VISITS PONTE VEDRA BEACH



Judge Jeanine Pirro (center) visited Ponte Vedra Beach last week to meet with over 50 people at the Westling house in Sawgrass Country Club. Flip to page 44 for more.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Here's to Healthcare

INSIDE



Sand Castles

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Florida/Georgia

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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?

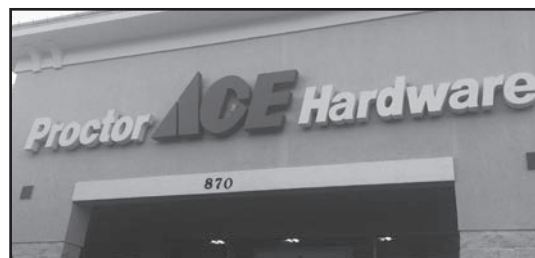


Do you know what this is?

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.

Four readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Proctor Ace Hardware sign in Ponte Vedra Beach. The winner of the random drawing was **Carole Blaine**. Congratulations, Carole — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



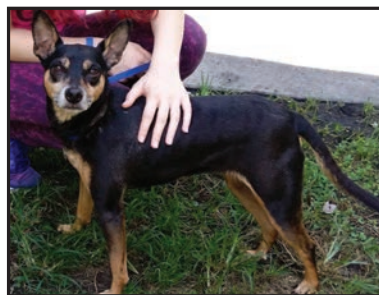
ADOPT A PET



CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Cherry, and I am a 9-week-old female kitten who was brought to the Pet Center by my owners because they could no longer care for me. Come visit me today here at the Pet Center! #45503

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.



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Sashi, and I am a 6-year-old miniature pinscher mix who was brought to the Pet Center as a

stray. I am heartworm positive, so my adoption fee, as well as \$250 toward my treatment, is sponsored by the Friends of the Pet Center. Since I'm a stray, there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit me today here at the Pet Center! #45084

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

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6	7	3	8	5	4	9	1	2

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

SPOOKTACULAR

October 12-14, 18-21, 26-31
6:30-10pm | Gates close at 9pm

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PETS GET BLESSED AT BES CELEBRATION

Animals of every kind made their way to the Beaches Episcopal School (BES) campus on Friday, Oct. 5, as they celebrated "Blessing of the Pets" with the entire BES school community. This event is in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment. The Reverends Louanne Loche and Bill Carroll from St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church prayed for God's blessings over everything from dogs and cats to lizards and snakes.

Photo courtesy of Beaches Episcopal School

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Movement to increase bed tax likely to be defeated

By Samantha Logue

It does not appear likely that a 1-percent increase in St. Johns County's tourist development tax from 4 to 5 percent will be approved as a funding mechanism for local beach renourishment, despite the County Commission's 3-2 vote directing county staff to move forward with drafting an ordinance on the matter at its Tuesday, Oct. 16 meeting.

The subject of much public debate for the better part of the last year, the item was added to the meeting's agenda for discussion by Commission Chair Henry Dean, who has been a vocal proponent of the increase specifically for funding beach restoration.

"What's before us today really is a funding formula partnership between the federal government, the state government and us, the local government," Dean said the meeting. "This funding formula not only, I think, is the best and fairest and most equitable formula ... but in my opinion, it's the only formula. I've given a lot of thought to this over the last year and a half or so, and I have been unable to come up with any alternative. This gets us where we need to be, and if we don't go forward, I am pretty much at a loss as to how we manage, restore and renourish our beaches."

According to county officials, a 1-percent increase in the tourist development tax, also called the "bed tax," could generate an additional \$2.2 million annually, which many residents have hoped would be allocated towards a long-term beach renourishment plan to address St. Johns County's long-standing issue of coastal



Recorder file photo
Coastal erosion on the First Coast has caused residents to push for an increase in the tourist development tax to help fund beach renourishment. Following the Tuesday, Oct. 16 meeting of the St. Johns County Commission, it does not appear that increase will take place.

erosion. Without at least a 4-1 supermajority vote of approval from the County Commission, however, those hopes are just a pipe dream, and currently, only three of the five commissioners have declared their support for the proposal.

Calling the decision a "no-brainer," Commissioner Jay Morris — who is not seeking re-election — said he was completely in favor of implementing the increase.

"To me, beach renourishment is probably the No. 1 thing in the county that we need to accomplish," he said, "and I feel

really bad about that, because I'm not going to be here when the final vote is taken on that. I would vote to raise the bed tax to 5 (percent) today, if we were going to do that — that's how strongly I feel about this."

While Commissioner Paul Waldron said he was also in favor of raising the bed tax, he disagreed that the decision was an easy one.

"I'm all for the TDC bed tax to go up, and I've said that all along, but when you come to some of this renourishment and the viability of it ... we are going to be

putting the county taxpayers in debt for \$48 million, plus interest," he said, referring to the state and federal renourishment projects currently on the table for Vilano and South Ponte Vedra beaches. "You've got to understand, that's not pennies."

Morris, however, noted that the tax increase could potentially help to fund those projects, emphasizing that the tax would be shouldered by tourists, not residents.

Nevertheless, Commissioner Jeb Smith said he opposed increasing the tax on principle as "one of those guys who ran on a 'no tax increase' agenda." And although he added that he was in favor of utilizing other collective means (such as an MSTU or MSBU) to address the issue of beach erosion, he announced his intention to vote against the bed tax increase — a declaration that drew loud boos from several of the meeting's attendees.

Commissioner Jimmy Johns, addressing those attendees, said he also intended to vote against the increase due to the uncertainty of whether the additional funds would actually be used for beach renourishment.

"I believe there is a solution to this; I believe we do not have it today," he said. "I believe the information you have is incomplete and inaccurate and you are wanting to achieve something that will not be achieved based on the information that is available today."

It is unknown when the final vote will take place, but with Smith and Johns now expected to vote against the bed tax increase, it seems those seeking to restore St. Johns County's beaches will need to find another path.

SVR Realty, LLC uses offices as drop-off points for Hurricane Michael donations

By Benjamin Naim

SVR Realty, LLC is offering four office spaces — including one in Ponte Vedra — to be used as drop-off points for locals to donate items for those impacted by Hurricane Michael in the Florida Panhandle.

Karen Giannini, a realtor at SVR and Ponte Vedra resident since 1994, said Broker/ Owner Jeffrey Terwilliger immediately approved of using company facilities to help those impacted by the massive storm when he was approached with the idea.

Hurricane Michael was the strongest storm on record to make landfall in the Panhandle. The system originated as a tropical depression before days later peaking as a Category 4 hurricane.

Giannini's son has been deployed on a search and rescue mission to the area with the National Guard. The realtor's goal is to aid in those recovery efforts by sending donated items to those who've suffered significant losses in Panama City and elsewhere in the area.

Along with family and friends, Giannini plans on taking donated items from SVR Realty's offices to the Panhandle on a regular basis.

"It's going to be like two or three trucks plus a 24-foot trailer," she said. "We're taking everything from baby bottles to clothing. There's a great need for stuff out there. These people have no homes or anything left."

Giannini pointed out that family members originally pitched the concept of sending donated items to Panama City and she thought it was an excellent idea. The realtor noted that she plans on helping in a similar capacity the next time a storm impacts Florida.

"I feel 180 percent that it needs to be done and I feel really good about doing it," she said. "I have a 13- and a 15-year-old and I feel it's so important to show them that they need to pitch in and help. Whether it's Panama City, so many hours away, in our own backyard or if it's in Miami — it's about helping the human race."

Anyone interested in contributing (before Giannini's second trip to transport donated items to Panama City on Nov. 2) can drop off donations such as baby bottles, diapers, clothing and other essentials to one of four SVR Realty locations: 100 Fairway Park Blvd., Suite 2200 in Ponte Vedra Beach; 12412 San Jose Blvd., Suite 403 in Jacksonville; 2233 Park Ave., Suite 203 in Orange Park; and 1924 University Blvd. West in Jacksonville.

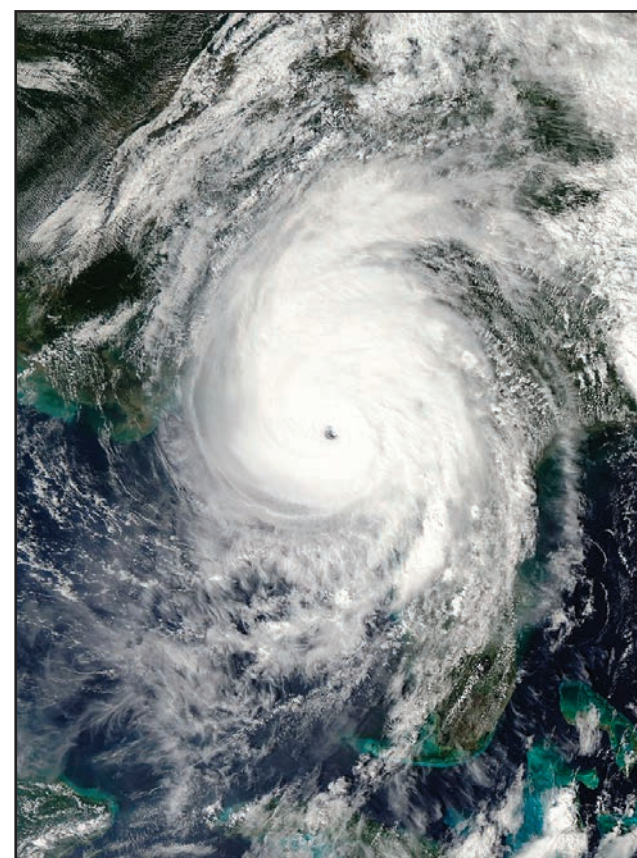


Photo courtesy of Wikipedia Commons
Hurricane Michael barreled toward the Florida Panhandle as a high Category 4 storm, leaving behind significant damage.

Incident during a youth soccer game at Davis Park creates stir

Facebook post alleges racism, PVAA stands behind field marshal

By Paris Moulden

A verbal disagreement at a youth soccer game Oct. 14, at Davis Park in Ponte Vedra became a national firestorm following a viral Facebook post, a 911 call and allegations of racism.

During the soccer game between teams from the Ponte Vedra Soccer Club and a Florida Elite Soccer Academy team from Oakleaf, several incidents reportedly occurred on the sideline of the visiting team, prompting a field marshal to intervene and eject several parents.

The main issue at the center of the social media frenzy, however, happened later in the game, when Gerald Jones, who is black, was yelling to his son from the sidelines. Jones said his son was about

to argue with a referee, and Jones said he approached the field to tell his son the referee is right and to leave it alone. Jones said he was then approached by a field marshal in a golf cart telling him not to communicate with referees. He said after explaining the situation, she continued to tell him he couldn't talk to his son, either, and, according to Jones, he told her that he was done with the conversation and walked away and was voluntarily leaving the field.

While the initial exchange was not caught on video, two parents did record portions of what happened after, which included a call to 911. One mother, Amy "Ginger Galore" Williams, posted her version of events on Facebook, which became viral and currently has more than 33,000 shares. In her post, Williams, who recorded Jones' and the field marshal's interactions with St. Johns County Sheriff's deputies, dubbed the field marshal "Golf-cart Gail" and wrote that the field marshal continued to "harass and beleaguer" Jones



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

as he walked away, and said she was calling the police due to his "threatening behavior."

Another parent, Maria Morales-Walther, who videotaped the field marshal as she called the police, said she felt obligated to get involved and record it because she wanted to make sure the incident was accurately relayed to officers.

"I wanted to record to show the cops that he wasn't the aggressor," Morales-Walther said.

Others, however, dispute the accuracy of Williams' Facebook post or that Jones was personally targeted by the field marshal because of his race.

INCIDENT continues on Page 14



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Parks & Recreation Department

A dead six-foot long finetooth shark lays on the sand in Ponte Vedra Beach with the plastic brim of an old hat wrapped around its neck.

Dead shark wrapped in plastic found washed ashore in Ponte Vedra Beach

UNF professor says it proves humans' overuse of plastics impacts wildlife

By Benjamin Naim

A dead finetooth shark was found washed ashore in Ponte Vedra Beach with the plastic brim of an old hat wrapped around its neck and gills on Friday, Oct. 12, and University of North Florida (UNF) professor James J. Gelsleichter believes the incident was both an isolated occurrence and indicative of a larger problem.

According to the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department, the shark was 6 feet long, is usually found from North Carolina to Brazil and often migrates through Northeast Florida waters heading

south in the early fall.

"Apparently it washed ashore with a plastic strap from a hat," the UNF professor said. "It has been reported before that sharks can sometimes become entangled in plastic or rings."

Gelsleichter, director of UNF's coastal and marine biology program, said the plastic debris that killed the shark likely ended up in the water because a boater's hat fell overboard and no one retrieved it.

"It's really common for people to lose their hats overboard," he noted. "I can't tell you the number of times I've had to turn around the boat because someone didn't hold onto their hat and it fell off. We always retrieve it, just because I want my hat back."

SHARK continues on Page 8

Dr. Tom Tomlin is the founder of Ponte Vedra Medical Center, which was recently sold to St. Vincent's, and a longtime resident of Ponte Vedra.

Dr. Tom Tomlin

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

My family and I moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 1985 while I was medical director for Health Options, Inc. (Blue Cross Blue Shield HMO) and medical director for St. Vincent's Ambulatory Care (Urgent Care Centers). In January 1988, I founded Ponte Vedra Family Practice and have practiced family medicine in Ponte Vedra and the Beaches, including delivering babies, providing newborn care, assisting at major surgery and providing hospital care of my patients. Over the years, additional physicians and counselors joined the practice to form Ponte Vedra Medical Center (PVMC), which includes family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, podiatry and behavioral health.

You recently sold your practice to St. Vincent's. Can you please tell us about that?

The younger partners of PVMC enjoy the practice of their medical specialties but did not want to assume my administrative duties. We chose to merge with St. Vincent's Ambulatory Care (now Ascension Medical Group) and they provide the administrative support while the physicians enjoy their patient practice. Ascension also has the resources to support the expansion of our service to the community, such as our recently added second pediatrician.

How has your life changed since then?

I had reduced my medical practice time to half time about four years ago and also had administrative responsibilities. Now I practice in the office two mornings a week and share in hospital on-call duties one day per week.

What are some of the key lessons you've learned in your 30 years of practice?

The most effective reduction in health care cost is for an individual to have their own personal physician that they consult with first and follow their preventive advice. Dr. "Google" and Dr. "WebMD" are not listed in the National Medical Library Association's Top Ten Most Trusted Websites (<https://www.mlanet.org/p/cm/ld/fid=397>).

I understand you still approach medicine with the old-fashioned family doctor model in mind. What about that model is so important to you?

My relationship with patients over the years has developed both ways — from friend to physician and from physician to friend. The opportunity to deliver babies, to see young parents develop into mature adults and to grow old among friends has provided the satisfaction that I wanted being a family physician.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

What does the Ponte Vedra community mean to you?

I first saw Ponte Vedra Beach the summer of 1965. In 1978, I showed Ponte Vedra Beach to my wife, Pam, and said I could be happy living there. The Navy transferred me to NAS JAX in 1980 to teach in the Family Medicine Residency Program. When I got out of the Navy in 1988, Pam and I moved "home" to Ponte Vedra Beach.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I work on my "honey do" list first. In addition, I FaceTime with grandchildren, play golf weekly, sit at the beach and fly my kite. With the reduced responsibilities, Pam and I have had the opportunity to travel, such as going to Hawaii for our recent 50th wedding anniversary.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

Vicar's Landing celebrates 30th anniversary

By Jon Blauvelt

More than 230 people came together last week to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Vicar's Landing in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Held Wednesday, Oct. 17, the elegant evening kicked off with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and music from a Chamber Group of the Jacksonville Symphony in the retirement community's auditorium.

Vicar's Landing CEO Bruce Jones provided remarks to set the scene for the night, noting that the community has served 1,327 members in its 30 years and employed thousands of staff members. In addition, he highlighted the community's recent renovations, accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Gold Seal and impact on the community through efforts such as its scholarship program.

"We have a great deal to be proud of here tonight," Jones said. "A lot to celebrate."

The celebration continued with an impressive meal in the dining room that included poached Scottish salmon with crème fraiche topped with caviar, surf and turf and more. After dinner, event attendees returned to the auditorium



Joanne and Jim Marx, Barbara Conway and Ginny Elliott enjoy the Vicar's Landing 30th anniversary celebration on Oct. 17.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Vicar's Landing CEO Bruce Jones addresses attendees.

for dessert and dancing, with music provided by Will Hurley's band.

The upscale retirement community opened in 1988 and has since become one of the most reputable institutions of Ponte Vedra Beach. With hundreds of independent living residences, a skilled nursing facility and an assisted living facility, Vicar's is now home to more than 360 seniors and has a waiting list that could more than refill the campus.



Tom and Kay Zolezzi



Bob and Mary Lee Golitz

Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library hosts Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants

The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library hosted the Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants on Oct. 13 for a presentation inspired by PBS series "Downton Abbey" on how to decorate your home using food and flowers.

Because the event took place earlier than usual due to the library's impending, temporary closure, the 50 people in attendance also learned about seasonal arrangements for autumn, in addition to the winter holidays.

Eighteen ladies took home flower arrangements that the Sisterhood created before and during the event. In addition to participating in the raffle to win the arrangements, attendees at the event also enjoyed light refreshments provided by The Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

The Sisterhood will return to the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library on Friday,



Photos provided by the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants entertains attendees of its Oct. 13 presentation at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

March 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. for its "Springtime at Downton" event.

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PV2-LV45856

Shark

Continued from 5

Gelsleichter said the plastic wrapped around the shark and eventually caused it to die. After swimming into a piece of debris, the professor explained that animals can get trapped in plastic that digs into their bodies — leading to death.

“I think this is a chance occurrence,” he noted. “But I think at the same time it’s kind of a microcosm of the larger problem. We’re using so much plastic and as we dispose of it, a large quantity is getting into our water bodies and it can have potential impacts that are relatively unexpected.”

Gelsleichter said plastics deposited in the ocean get broken down over time into microplastics, which can be smaller than 5 millimeters in length. Consequently, the contaminant can accumulate in the water, be ingested by wildlife and adversely affect fish

and humans.

“This is not a ‘chicken little’ situation where we have to worry about population decline because of plastic wrapping around sharks,” he asserted. “But it does demonstrate that our use of plastics can have impacts on wildlife.”

A large portion of plastic contamination in the sea is related to the dissolution of larger pieces of plastic, Gelsleichter claimed. The professor’s Shark Biology Program — which has been active for the last decade — has studied microplastic in sharks to determine the effects of water pollution on wildlife and to recommend a solution.

Additionally, the program conducts research on the ecology of shark populations, reproductive biology and the physiology of sharks and their relatives.

For more information on Gelsleichter and his program, visit his UNF faculty page at www.unf.edu/bio/N00634111.



Photos courtesy of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach

Visitors enjoy refreshments at The Plantation’s private beach club.

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach hosts Community Open House

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach opened its community gates to the general public on Sunday, Oct. 14 for its Fall Community Open House event.

A variety of homes ranging in price and style participated in the event, during which visitors checked in at the Clubhouse for refreshments and tours led by Plantation marketing and membership committee members.

Visitors had the opportunity to view The Plantation’s championship golf course and seven-court tennis center and amenities park, which features

a croquet lawn and playground. Additionally, after guests made their way through the community viewing participating homes, they were invited to stop over to the Beach Club to experience The Plantation’s private oceanfront property.

The Plantation is a premier, private residential neighborhood in Ponte Vedra Beach with luxury amenities, including a newly renovated golf course, private beach club, tennis facility, fitness center, Amenities Park and a clubhouse with dining and social activities for all ages.

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Congressional candidate Selmont hosts Concert for Unity fundraiser at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

By Jon Blauvelt

Ges Selmont, a Democratic candidate for Congress in Florida's 4th District and a Ponte Vedra Beach resident, hosted a fundraising concert last Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Attended by approximately 30 people, the event featured performances by Nashville country music recording artist and entertainer Trey Taylor, local band Ample Angst and others. Selmont referred to the event as a unity concert and an opportunity for people of differ-

ent ideologies to enjoy a night of music together.

"It really is just an opportunity to try to give back and open up the doors of the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall to everybody and have a nice, unifying night before we go into three weeks of fighting toward Nov. 6 and what's probably going to be a lot of acrimony ... across the country as we come down to these last couple weeks of the election," said Selmont, who is challenging Rep. John

SELMONT continues on Page 11



ABOVE: Ges Selmont, a Democratic candidate for Congress in Florida's 4th District and a Ponte Vedra Beach resident, addresses attendees of his fundraising concert last Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.



LEFT: Nashville country music recording artist and entertainer Trey Taylor entertains the crowd at the fundraiser.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

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Dinesh D'Souza to speak with Rep. Yoho and others in Jacksonville in memory of Benghazi attack victims

Famed filmmaker and author Dinesh D'Souza will join Congressman Ted Yoho at an America First event on Saturday, Nov. 3 in remembering the lives of Americans lost at the Sept. 11, 2012 attack in Benghazi, Libya. The event will take place at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront, located at 225 East Coastline Drive in Jacksonville.

Other prominent national speakers participating in the program following the memorial ceremony include Kevin Shipp, a former CIA officer and anti-terrorism expert; Joshua Thifault, Turning Point USA Youth Movement leader; Charles Woods, the father of Benghazi hero Tyrone Woods; and Stephanie Jason, expert on Libya. Personal friends of slain U. S. Ambassador Chris Stevens plan to attend.

D'Souza and Shipp will be available at the event for book signings.

A reception to welcome speakers and guests will precede the event. Music selections will be performed by songwriter and recording artist Ann. M. Wolf, the Let Freedom Sing Chorus and pianist Dominick Dillon. K9s For Warriors, Trail Life USA and Air Force JROTC will be featured in the memorial ceremony with military honors. Exhibitor tables will also be available.

To purchase tickets for the VIP reception, the main America First event or an exhibitor table, google Dinesh D'Souza in Jacksonville and follow the link to "Benghazi Tribute" or visit www.benghazitribute.org. Reduced prices for seniors and veterans will be offered.

Selmont

Continued from 10

Rutherford, the incumbent and former sheriff of Duval County, for the seat. “We just wanted to kick it off with some-

thing nice and positive.”

Selmont noted that the Florida Democratic Party has previously written off certain parts of the state, but this year is working in every county, including St. Johns County, to win votes.

Lisa King, the chair of the Duval

County Democratic Executive Committee and a Ponte Vedra Beach native, attended the fundraiser and said Selmont brings a certain level of activism and professionalism that hasn’t been seen from a Democratic leader in the area in a long time.

“That’s really important to a lot of Democrats because, there are Democrats everywhere,” King said. “There are more Democrats than people realize in St. Johns County and they want to feel represented and heard and be able to out and loud and proud.”



Photos by Jon Blauvelt
Lisa King, the chair of the Duval County Democratic Executive Committee and a Ponte Vedra Beach native, addresses the attendees of the fundraiser.

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Thursday, Oct. 25	Friday, Oct. 26	Saturday, Oct. 27	Sunday, Oct. 28
<p>Breast Cancer Awareness Event Join Mainstream Boutique, located at 880 A1A N. Suite 4 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Oct. 25 for a special Breast Cancer Awareness event where 10 percent of sales will go to CancerKare. Raffles and giveaways from Mainstream Boutique, BellaVi Nail Spa, Anytime Fitness and others will be available.</p> <p>The Simon & Garfunkel Story Using huge projection photos and original film footage, the Simon & Garfunkel Story features a full live band performing all the hits including "Mrs Robinson," "Cecilia," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Homeward Bound" and more. This event is set for Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Times Union Center for the Performing Arts in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Spiritual Awakening This event, entitled Spiritual Awakening, will help participants understand themselves as a spiritual being and use their energy in a way that is healing and uplifting. The event will take place Oct. 25 at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, located at 124 Seagrove Main St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Painting with a Twist This class, scheduled for Oct. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m., will teach participants how to use acrylic paint. To be held at 268 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach, call (904) 687-4307 for more information. Ticket costs support charity.</p> <p>Durbin Creek Animal Hospital grant opening Durbin Creek Animal Hospital will host a grand opening with a ribbon cutting Oct. 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. The event will feature a tour and a Meet the Doc segment. To RSVP, email durbincreekvet@gmail.com. The grand opening will take place at 254 Everest Lane, Suite 1 in St. Johns. Additionally, the first annual Durbin Creek Animal Hospital Costume Celebration will take place on Facebook. Send cute costumed pet pictures to DurbinCreekVetStaff@gmail.com by noon to enter.</p>	<p>Cannon Firing Demonstration at Castillo de San Marcos National Parks Service volunteers and personnel demonstrate a cannon firing at the Castillo de San Marcos museum / monument every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Rangers and volunteers demonstrate the weapons and relate the experiences of the colonial Spanish soldier of 1740s St. Augustine. Firing times are subject to change depending on weather conditions and staff availability. Castillo de San Marcos is located at 1 S. Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Annual Haunted History Tour The 10th Annual Haunted History Tour, taking place Oct. 26 from 6 to 9 p.m., will be hosted at eight haunting venues in downtown St. Marys, GA. The event is presented by St. Marys Little Theatre & St. Marys Downtown Merchants Association. Call (912) 882-7350 for more information.</p> <p>Food Truck Friday Palencia residents are invited to Food Truck Friday Oct. 26 on Market Street from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, call (904) 429-7891.</p> <p>Pumpkin Patch 2018 Stop by Rype and Readi's Downtown Farm Market Oct. 26 to pick a pumpkin from one of the many found in the pumpkin patch, located at 115 La Quinta Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Tactile Art exhibition This exhibition at the St. Augustine Art Association includes braille signage and art that is touchable, visually appealing and engaging for the blind. The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at 22 Marine St. in St. Augustine. The St. Augustine Art Association emerged in 1924 when Nina Hawkins, a young woman editor of The St Augustine Record, gathered wintering artists and writers together to form "The Galleon Club." For more information, visit www.staaa.org.</p>	<p>The Halloween Express Kids of all ages are welcome to enjoy a monster competition to determine who is the most fun monster of all on the Halloween Express, running Oct. 27 at 1000 Osborne St. in St. Marys, GA. As passengers ride the rails through woodlands and marshlands on the way to the Monster Ball, Halloween entertainment will abound. The Express departs from Theatre by the Trax at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.stmarysrailroad.com or call (912) 200-5235.</p> <p>Nancy Quatrano workshop Nancy Quatrano will host a workshop program entitled "Backstory: When, How, and How Much" at the FWA Ponte Vedra Writers meeting Oct. 27 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Library. Quatrano has presented workshops to writer's groups and conferences from New Jersey to Florida. In addition to fiction writing, she owns and operates On-Target Words, a professional writing business that specializes in developmental editing, press releases, article writing, and specialty publishing. The Ponte Vedra Library is located at 101 Library Blvd.</p> <p>St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market To be held each Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market features more than 100 tents loaded with local produce, flowers, baked goods, handmade arts and crafts and more. The market also features community classes. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.staugamphitheatre.com/p51-farmer-s-market.aspx. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340 A1A S.</p> <p>'First Man' "First Man" is a look at the life of astronaut Neil Armstrong and the legendary space mission that led him to become the first man to walk on the moon on July 20, 1969. This film is showing at the World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater. For more information on showtimes and ticket prices, visit www.worldgolfimax.com.</p>	<p>Blood Drive Palms Presbyterian Church, partnered with LifeSouth, will host a Blood Drive Oct. 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the front parking lot of the church. LifeSouth will supply 100 percent of the blood to patients at Wolfson Children's Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Orange Park Medical Center and all Baptist Medical Centers. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 3rd St. S. in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 246-6427 or visit www.palmschurch.org.</p> <p>Royal Fireworks! concert Palms Presbyterian Church will host its first concert of the 2018-19 Fine Arts Series Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. The First Coast Wind Symphony, which features 60-members, will perform a "Royal Fireworks!" concert at the church. The concert is free, open to the public and a nursery will be provided. A meet-the-artists reception will follow the concert. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 3rd St. S. in Jacksonville Beach. Visit www.fcwinds.org for more information.</p> <p>Wine tasting To be held at Two Dudes Seafood Restaurant at 262 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach Oct. 28 from 4 to 5:30 p.m., this wine tasting event will benefit S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue, Inc. Tickets cost \$50 per person. The fundraiser will feature appetizers, live music by Monkey Wrench and a silent auction. Call Dr. Karen Wolf at (904) 607-3622 or Lisa Wargo at (914) 420-5769 to purchase tickets.</p> <p>Jaguars watch party Watch the Jaguars take on the Eagles across the pond in London at Vernon's first Sunday Brunch Oct. 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. To be held at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, located at 1000 Pga Tour Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Holy Yoga for Charity Cheryl Olson will be teaching a Holy Yoga for Charity class at Titanium Yoga Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. with proceeds benefitting Her Song, which supports local victims of human trafficking. Register online at www.transformandradiate.com/classes/holyyoga.</p>

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Monday, Oct. 29	Tuesday, Oct. 30	Wednesday, Oct. 31	Thursday, Nov. 1
<p>MOSH Mondays The Museum of Science and History's MOSH Mondays feature discounts including buy-one-get-one-half-off admission for adults, 10 percent off MOSH-branded items in the museum shop, 10 percent off memberships when signing up in-person and 10 percent off birthday packages when signing up in-person. MOSH Mondays also feature rotating weekly programs. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville. Visit www.themosh.org for more information.</p> <p>Cat adoption at Ponte Vedra Library Cats will be available for adoption at the Ponte Vedra Library Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All cats have been spayed/neutered and have taken their rabies shots. The Ponte Vedra Library is located at 101 Library Blvd.</p> <p>Essential Oils The River House, located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine, will host a workshop on the health benefits of pure essential oils. Instructor Jayne Moon will demonstrate how to incorporate essential oils into everyday life. To be held Oct. 29 and 31 from 1 to 2 p.m. Admission costs \$20 for River House members and \$25 for non-members. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a seat.</p> <p>Infant Foundation To be held Oct. 29 at the Southeast Branch Library, this Infant Foundations class will offer a low-key, foundational storytime event for infants from birth to pre-walkers that will teach key early literacy skills and reinforce the infant/caregiver bond. Older siblings are welcome to attend. Storytime will be followed by a short stay and play session. The Southeast Branch Library is located at 6670 U.S. 1 S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>The Wilderness of North Florida's Parks This exhibition, entitled The Wilderness of North Florida's Parks, is on display at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Admission to the exhibition is free. The Cultural Center, located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach, is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p>	<p>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 Oct. 30 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.</p> <p>Halloween costume party Join THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center for a spooctacular Halloween costume party Oct. 30 at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Danielle Johnson at (904) 280-3233 or email djohnson@stjohnscoa.com. THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Christmas in October The Woman's Exchange of St. Augustine will host its annual Christmas in October luncheon series on Tuesdays, Fridays and select Thursdays through Nov. 13 at the Anna Burt Memorial Garden of the Pena-Peck House. Luncheons start at noon. The cost to attend is \$31.95 per person and includes a \$5 coupon for the day of the luncheon on a purchase of \$10 or more. To book a spot and for more information, email shopstaff@att.net.</p> <p>Jaws of the Sea St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will host this free event along with Marineland Dolphin Adventure Oct. 30 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Nease Beachfront Park. This is an interactive walk where participants will learn all about sharks. Participants will also get a chance to look for shark teeth on the beach. Visit www.sjcfi.us/Recreation for more information.</p>	<p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center. These meetings help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Lucy Reep at lucyreep@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Wednesday Market at St. Augustine Beach The St. Augustine Beach Wednesday Market offers oceanfront shopping at the St. Johns County Pier Park every Wednesday starting at 8 a.m. Approximately 60 to 80 vendors can be found at the market selling locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared foods, arts, crafts and more. Visit www.sabca.org for more information.</p> <p>Trick or Treat on the Street Downtown Vision, Inc. will celebrate the spookiest time of the year with this Trick or Treat on the Street event. Guests are encouraged to wear their best costumes and bring a friend or the whole family Oct. 31 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.stjax.com/trickortreat.</p> <p>Paddle ride Celebrate Halloween with a mysterious paddle into the setting sun Oct. 31 from 5 to 7 p.m. Join Ripple Effect Ecotours for an eco-adventure featuring estuarine waterways while listening to spooky tales of the natives who inhabited the area years ago. For more information, including ticket prices, visit www.rippleeffectecotours.com or call (904) 347-1565.</p>	<p>Florida Agricultural Museum farmers market This farmers market takes place each Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. The market is located at the Florida Agricultural Museum at 7900 Old Kings Road N. in Palm Coast. Visitors are welcome to enjoy farm animals, local honey, flea market items, fruits, vegetables and local artisans.</p> <p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class Nov. 1 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Breastfeeding 101 class This event, entitled "Breastfeeding 101: Getting Mom and Baby Off to the Best Start," will take place Nov. 1 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Y Healthy Living Center in Ponte Vedra. The YMCA's board-certified lactation consultants will teach participants about the key elements to get breastfeeding off to the best start. The class will begin by separating facts from fiction and discussing health benefits for mother and baby. Other topics will include learning the feeding cues of babies, how long and how often to feed, how to know if the baby is getting enough, increasing milk supply and more. Register online by searching for "Breastfeeding 101 Class" on www.eventbrite.com.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to ben@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Incident

Continued from 5

Gary Easom, president of the Ponte Vedra Athletic Association, spoke to the field marshal and doesn't believe race played a factor in what transpired. Easom said he thinks the field marshal, who has been a part of the PVAA for 12 years, was just enforcing the rules set up by the association and was responding to multiple incidences that occurred that day.

"I honest to God believe she was fol-

lowing protocol," Easom said.

Easom, who spoke to the field marshal after the incident, said she had previously ejected a parent, who was white, for yelling at referees, who are also teenagers. After returning from removing that parent, she saw Jones approach the field and yell, and initially thought he was also yelling at the referee, although Jones said he was correcting his son.

"Even if he was doing that, it's still a violation of our code," Easom said. "As good as the (intentions) are, it still shouldn't be done."

Easom said the PVAA's Code of Conduct not only doesn't allow parents to yell at coaches, referees or kids, but also prohibits parents from coaching on the sidelines. Parents whose children play in the PVAA must sign the Code of Conduct agreeing to those rules. The Code of Conduct, however, for the Florida Elite Soccer Academy, which the Oakleaf team is a member of, also requires parents to "refrain from verbal abuse of players, coaches, referees, opponents, and spectators," but it does not prohibit sideline coaching or communication with a child during play.

Easom said because the rules can vary from league to league, field marshals generally issue a warning on the first offense and can eject a spectator after a second offense or if the spectator becomes argumentative or combative.

"She has done this for many years and has (previously) had to remove parents for berating officials, coaches and kids and for coaching from the sidelines," Easom said.

In the Oct. 14 situation, however, Easom said it was multiple incidents that prompted the 911 call and not specifically the interaction with Jones. Easom said the field marshal called the police after being confronted by another parent, and after seeing a car that resembled the car of the first person ejected, causing her to believe that he was returning as well. Easom said it was the "continued confrontation" that led to the 911 call.

"Technically speaking, she wasn't calling on him (Jones) and he just got caught up in it," Easom said.

Morales-Walther, who can also be heard on the recording being told to leave the premises, said she witnessed parents on Oakleaf's side ejected on a first offense.

"At no point, did she give anybody a warning," Morales-Walther said. "She just kicked people out of the complex, which I find is wrong because your child is still there playing a soccer game. Where is that child going to go?"

She also said there was some confusion about the woman's role as field marshal.

"She didn't tell anybody who she was," Morales-Walther said. "She didn't have any representation of who she was, so we didn't know she was an authority figure."

The PVAA issued a statement supporting the field marshal, saying, "The authorities were not called solely for this particular incident, but as a result of a culmination of several immediate prior incidents. The field marshal acted appropriately and without malice to ensure the welfare of the children she is charged with protecting." Easom notes the field marshal's 911 call makes no mention of race and refers to multiple people.

In the 911 call released by the St. Johns Sheriff's Office, the field marshal can be heard saying, "I have parents that are out of control and need to be removed from a youth soccer game." She then went on to state it's two parents, and "The male is leaving, but the female refuses to go."

She told the 911 operator she needs the sheriff's department to come and escort the female out.

She also said the man, presumably Jones, was walking to his car but that she was remaining at the soccer field because of the parent who won't leave and she was afraid there could be issues.

She then reported the dad was coming back and she needed the police there now. She also claims in the call the mother was cursing in front of children and that another mother just came up and took her picture.

"Things could get bad real fast," she said in the call.

One video recording released shows the interaction between Jones and SJSO, and the field marshal and SJSO, in which no one was detained or cited.

SJSO Commander Chuck Mulligan said despite suggestions on social media, the field marshal's use of 911 in this situation was not improper.

"If people are arguing, and someone calls 911, it's legitimate," Mulligan said. "Anytime there's a conflict, we would prefer to be called before any criminal activity can occur. The deputy handled everything appropriately."

As far as everything leading up to the 911 call, Mulligan said the rules at the soccer field are a civil matter, and SJSO did what it needed to do to make sure the situation was resolved and everybody was able to go home safely.

"The conversation was civil with everyone involved," Mulligan said. "In absence of a crime, we really don't go any further into it."

Jones said he had no problem talking with SJSO deputies about the incident and commended their handling of it, but he didn't understand how things escalated to the point it did.

"She has every right to do what she wants to do, but I wasn't doing anything wrong," Jones said.

Jones said it was also important to him to correct his son and teach his kids to respect authority. He said because of the young age and lack of experience of some of the referees involved in youth sports, he's witnessed issues between officials and parents, but multiple ejections and police involvement is not something he's used to.

"This is the first time I've experienced that," Jones said.

He also said he was surprised by the attention the story has received.

"We all become judgmental and we never know how we are going to react when we see things go awry," Jones said. "People react differently to different things."

And some of the backlash from the initial Facebook post has resulted in physical threats against the field marshal involved. Mulligan said the SJSO is aware of direct threats being made against her and is monitoring the situation.

Williams and the field marshal did not respond to requests for comment.

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Nocatee man warms hearts with handmade donations to kids in hospice care

By Samantha Logue

In Nocatee's Austin Park neighborhood, there is a garage filled with the unlikely combination of Ohio State football memorabilia and beautiful, handmade doll houses. That garage, belonging to resident craftsman Brendan Hoffman, might as well be Santa's workshop to the terminally-ill children in Community Hospice & Palliative Care's Community PedsCare program, who receive Hoffman's donated creations each year.

"I normally take (the doll houses) to them about the first week of December," Hoffman advised. "I like them to go to terminally-ill children first, and then maybe a child who lost a parent around Christmas-time. They have plenty to choose from."

Community PedsCare, as part of Community Hospice & Palliative Care, serves children up to age 21 through a number of different programs, including a hospice program for children who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live. Hoffman, who has been donating doll houses to the program for the past eight years, said his project was born out of a promise he made to his daughter, who died of melanoma in 2009.

"When I was growing up, elderly people got melanoma," he said, "but my

daughter was 28 and melanoma skin cancer doesn't discriminate. It's the easiest cancer to cure if caught in time, but it's the fastest and deadliest of all cancers."

Hoffman spent the last six weeks of his daughter's life by her bedside in hospice care, and that was where she made her final requests, one of which being that he build doll houses — like the one he made for her when she was little — for children in hospice care.

"I've been trying to keep my promise to her," he said. "I told her I'd do these as long as I can ... and if it takes their minds off their sickness, this is all worth it. It really is."

Hoffman has kept his word faithfully, devoting half of each year to building the intricate houses, even going the extra mile to decorate them with wreathes, garlands and Christmas lights.

"They're incredible," Community PedsCare Director Patrice Austin said of Hoffman's houses. "You can't even imagine when you walk into a room and see six of them built. It's like they've taken the most beautiful homes in Jacksonville and just shrunk them. And the detail and the love that he puts into them is incredible — you've not seen anything like it."

In addition to the doll houses, Hoffman has also begun making tabletop corn hole



ABOVE: Built by Nocatee resident Brendan Hoffman, these two Victorian-style doll houses will be donated this December to children in hospice care in the Community PedsCare program at Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Photo by Samantha Logue



LEFT: Some of the doll houses built by Hoffman and his helpers include special touches, like battery-powered lighting or furniture.

Photo courtesy of Curt Rogers

sets for boys with the help of his wife. According to Austin, each gift recipient is specially selected by her team based on which child they feel will most appreciate its worth.

"The children are so grateful," she said. "Some of them don't have an opportunity to have such a gift, so it's truly special."

DOLL HOUSES continues on **Page 17**

NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET HELPS AREA RESIDENTS GET INTO THE FALL SPIRIT



Photo by Susan Griffin

Area residents enjoy the monthly Nocatee Farmers Market on Saturday, Oct. 20, which featured a Fall Festival theme that included live music from The Band Be Easy, a petting zoo, hayrides and life-size scarecrow making.



Sarah McKeown and Megan Kennedy gather at a fundraiser held at Coastal Wine Market in Nocatee on Oct. 1 supporting the Alzheimer's Association's 2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Jacksonville.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Starling partners with Coastal Wine Market to hold fundraiser supporting Alzheimer's Association

The Starling at Nocatee and Starling at San Jose recently teamed up with Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room to host a fundraiser in support of the Alzheimer's Association's 2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Jacksonville.

With the event held Oct. 1 at Coastal Wine in Nocatee, guests enjoyed wine,

beer and food. A portion of the evening's proceeds went toward the Starling's efforts to support the Walk, which is taking place Nov. 3.

For more information on the Walk, visit act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2018/FL-CentralandNorthFlorida?pg=entry&fr_id=11124.

OBITUARIES

Roy Mulhall

Our wise, witty and wonderful father, Roy Edward Mulhall, died and departed for heaven on Oct. 7, 2018. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on July 22, 1941, to Roy Edward Mulhall Sr. and Viola Deters.

The Mulhall family moved to Jacksonville, Florida, in 1955. Roy attended duPont High School and graduated with the class of 1959. A proud patriot, he served his country in the Army Security Agency and Army Reserve. He joined his future wife, Barbara Burns, at Florida State University following his discharge from the Army and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business administration. He was a Sigma Chi fraternity member and lifelong fan of the FSU Seminoles.

A successful career followed as an executive for several companies in the consumer electronics industry. He was the highest-ranking American in the Japanese corporation, Uniden, and was instrumental in placing the cordless telephone into the American marketplace. He was also very involved in the early days of the development of satellite television and dined with President Ronald Reagan at the White House to discuss the potential of the satellite industry.

In 1984, he moved his family to Ponte



Roy Mulhall

Vedra Beach, a community he loved and where he was an original member of the Sawgrass Country Club. He remained there for the rest of his life, with his children and grandchildren close by in Sawgrass. Local friends will remember him as an owner of Cedar River Seafood restaurants, the Bono's BBQ in Ponte Vedra Beach and The Mill Bakery, Eatery and Brewery restaurants in Jacksonville and throughout Florida.

He is survived by the love of his life,

his wife of 52 years, Barbara Burns Mulhall. He is also survived by his son, Sean; daughter, Kelly; daughter-in-law, Joanna; and his grandchildren, Ryan and Abbey. His family meant everything to him, and time spent with family was the highlight of his day. Friends and family will never forget his joyful and engaging personality, wise advice and great sense of humor.

He was interred at Oaklawn Cemetery in Jacksonville during a family service. A Celebration of Life will take place later this month.

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



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Shepard Spink

Shepard Spink

Shepard "Shep" Colegrove Spink of Ponte Vedra died peacefully at home, surrounded by his wife and children, on Oct. 15, 2018, following a year-long struggle with cancer. He will be remembered by the many who knew and loved him for his sharp wit and whimsical — often salty — sense of humor, abiding love for his family and for all dogs, artistic talent and sensibility, loyal friendship, unwavering code of ethics and pride in having served his country.

Shep was born in Detroit, Michigan, on Oct. 19, 1940, and grew up in Greenwich, Connecticut. He was educated at the Greenwich Country Day School; Phillips Andover Academy in Andover, Massachusetts; and Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where he earned a degree in English and fine arts in 1962. He remained close to his brothers from the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity throughout his adult life.

The day after he graduated from Trinity, Shep joined the U.S. Marine Corps. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in September 1962 and received his wings in 1964.

He flew UH-1E helicopters with VMO-2 during his deployment in Vietnam in 1966-1967. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism and extraordinary achievement as the flight leader of a rescue mission on June 6, 1966. Capt. Spink received his discharge in 1967, but he never stopped being a Marine.

Shep met Isobel Brawley of Charlottesville, Virginia, while he was on leave in 1962. They married in 1963 and began a 55-year international adventure.

On returning from Vietnam, he joined The New Yorker magazine and relocated his young family to Westport, Connecticut. In the summer of 1968, he was greatly moved by news reports of

OBITUARIES continues on Page 17

PONTE VEDRA

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<p>MAX WEINBERG'S JUKEBOX OCTOBER 26</p> <p>DWEEZIL ZAPPA OCTOBER 27</p> <p>BRETT DENNEN w/ ERIN RAE NOVEMBER 2</p> <p>BILLY F GIBBONS "THE BIG BAD BLUES TOUR" FEAT. MATT SORUM, AUSTIN HANKS & ELWOOD FRANCIS NOVEMBER 3</p> <p>AMY RAY & HER BAND w/ DANIELLE HOWLE BAND NOVEMBER 8</p> <p>SISTER HAZEL w/ THE JOE BACHMAN BAND NOVEMBER 9</p> <p>SHEMOKIA COPELAND NOVEMBER 10</p> <p>OTTMAR LIEBERT & LUNA NEGRA NOVEMBER 11</p> <p>APEX THEATRE PRESENTS FALL ARTS SHOWCASE NOVEMBER 16</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS O'CONNOR & DVORAK "AMERICA" NOVEMBER 18</p> <p>ATMOSPHERE w/ DEM ATLAS, THE LIONESSES & DJ KEEZY NOVEMBER 25</p> <p>MARC BROUSSARD & HIS BAND w/ KRISTOPHER JAMES NOVEMBER 29</p>	<p>UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA CHORALE & CHAMBER SINGERS PRESENTS MIRACLES: "MESSIAH" FAVORITES & CAROLS OF MYSTERY DECEMBER 1</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH MOE. DECEMBER 2</p> <p>IRIS DEMENT w/ PIETA BROWN DECEMBER 8</p> <p>A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS w/ RICK BRAUN & EUGE GROOVE DECEMBER 11</p> <p>APEX THEATRE STUDIO PRESENTS "A CHRISTMAS STORY" DECEMBER 14 & 15</p> <p>STEVEN WILSON DECEMBER 16</p> <p>ROGER MCGUINN & CHRIS HILLMAN w/ MARTY STUART & HIS FABULOUS SUPERLATIVES CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "SWEETHEART OF THE RODEO" DECEMBER 17</p> <p>ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL DECEMBER 18</p> <p>DONNA THE BUFFALO w/ WESTERN CENTURIES DECEMBER 29</p>	<p>JAN 20 AN EVENING WITH COMEDIAN ROBERT KLEIN</p> <p>JAN 24 RECKLESS KELLY & NIKKI LANE</p> <p>JAN 26 OLD 97'S & SHOOTER JENNINGS</p> <p>JAN 31 NEKO CASE</p> <p>FEB 2 UNDER THE STREETLAMP "ROCKIN' AROUND THE CLOCK"</p> <p>FEB 5 GAELIC STORM</p> <p>FEB 7 THE MAGPIE SALUTE</p> <p>FEB 9 INDIGO GIRLS SOLD OUT</p> <p>FEB 10 ALAN DOYLE</p> <p>FEB 14 KEIKO MATSUI CELEBRATING 30 YEARS IN MUSIC</p> <p>FEB 15 AN EVENING WITH TOM RUSH ACCOMPANIED BY MATT NAKOA</p> <p>FEB 17 DAVE MASON & STEVE CROPPER</p> <p>FEB 19 LOS LOBOS</p> <p>FEB 20 THE ZOMBIES</p> <p>FEB 21 KASEY CHAMBERS & THE FIRESIDE DISCIPLES w/ CARLY BURRUSS</p> <p>MAR 10 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS SCHUMANN</p> <p>MAR 15 A BOWIE CELEBRATION: THE DAVID BOWIE ALUMNI TOUR</p> <p>MAR 16 ROGER MCGUINN</p> <p>MAR 21 JOAN OSBORNE SINGS THE SONGS OF BOB DYLAN</p> <p>MAR 29 AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH SHAWN COLVIN</p> <p>MAY 5 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS BEETHOVEN "INTROSPECTION"</p>
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Doll Houses

Continued from 15

And when they learn that someone has made (the gifts) particularly for them to have, it just puts so much meaning on the holiday.”

Others have also been touched by Hoffman’s story and cause. For instance, Brillium, Inc. CEO Curt Rogers, a former neighbor of Hoffman’s, was so moved that he enlisted the help of his business partner to fund the efforts, and the help of his employees to make more gifts.

“We weren’t really sure if this was intruding upon something that was very meaningful and personal to (Brendan),” Rogers said, “but he allowed us to help, and as it turns out, I think it benefited both the initiative and him in a lot of different ways. It started to become

somewhat of a social effort as much as a personal mission for him.”

Rogers added that his father-in-law, having heard about the project, has also been inspired to follow in Hoffman’s footsteps.

“To date, he’s built a couple houses now that kind of came out of this whole experience we had,” Rogers said. “He’s delivered them to a few places in North Carolina and I think he’s got two or three more in the works, so it’s starting to kind of take on a life of its own.”

For Austin, the thought that Hoffman’s heartwarming mission could ignite a national movement was truly amazing.

“I think it’s a beautiful concept,” she said. “It’s organic and it’s pure, and if he has sparked a movement to join in on such a beautiful gift coming from the heart, it doesn’t get any better than that.”



Photo courtesy of Curt Rogers

For a festive touch, Hoffman also likes to decorate his doll houses with holiday decorations.

Obituaries

Continued from 16

widespread starvation among Biafran children affected by the civil war in Nigeria. He took a leave of absence from The New Yorker and within three weeks had helped develop an operational plan, raise funds and acquire aircraft parts. He joined six other helicopter pilots, and under the auspices of The Red Cross, they delivered food and supplies to refugees in Nigeria.

In 1969, Shep joined Citibank to begin a two-decades-long international banking career, during which he and his family lived in the Philippines; Nigeria; India; South Africa; Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo); Australia; Taiwan; Winnetka, Illinois; and Hong Kong. When Shep retired in 1989, he and Isobel settled in Ponte Vedra, Florida, where they enjoyed golf, an extensive community of new friends and frequent visits from old ones. Shep was an early and active supporter of The First Tee, served as president of the Friends of the Library (Ponte Vedra branch) and as a member of the Marsh Landing ARB for many years, and participated in the R.E.A.D. program at Twin Lakes Elementary School with his dog Lily. After a long hiatus, he took up painting in his retirement and became an accomplished watercolorist.

Shep is survived by his wife, Isobel, of Ponte Vedra; daughter Laura Chisholm and husband Townley, of Lee, New Hampshire; son Shepard “Colie” Spink Jr. and wife Jennifer of London, England; sister Barbara Marden of Ivoryton, Connecticut; grandchildren Amanda, Isaiah and Sarah Chisholm, and Shep, Josephine and Sophia Spink; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Wounded Warrior Project or to Doctors Without Borders.

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About Dr. Camarda & Camarda Wealth
Chairman Jeff Camarda has been repeatedly named by Barron’s* as “one of the best financial advisors in America,” one of WORTH

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

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Dr. Camarda’s Weekly Wealth Nugget THE INVESTMENTS PATH FORWARD (PART 1 OF 4)

Non-US investments have faltered for much of this year largely due to trade uncertainty. We think this is temporary, and once trade is normalized these markets will come roaring back, and probably surpass the US markets. The reason is non-US markets are still very cheap, and the US market is trading at rich valuations which may not be sustainable over the midterm. It’s like having identical houses in two very similar neighborhoods with the same schools and everything. At a given instant in time, one house – the “US house” – is selling for top dollar, let’s say \$800,000. The identical house – the “international house” is selling for only \$550,000. Smart investors – who also have to be patient – would sell the US house and buy the international house.

On top of this, the US dollar started to rise, largely because rising interest rates here attract capital from other countries. Since investors have to buy dollars to get them, this drives up demand and prices for dollars and reduces the relative value of the other currencies non-US stock markets are priced in. Until the dollar goes down – and it has a little bit lately – investments in non-US markets look worse than they actually are because of this dollar effect. On the other hand, a strong dollar makes these markets even more of a bargain in our view. It is important to note that when the dollar trend eventually reverses – as it almost certainly must – this currency effect will give an added kick to US investors’ returns, so long as they stay invested long enough to see it.

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Chemo Noir raises approximately \$10,000 at fall gala

Chemo Noir, a local nonprofit that provides financial support for cancer patients undergoing treatment, raised an estimated \$10,000 at its annual fall gala fundraising event on Saturday, Oct. 13 at 3 Palms Grille in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The event featured a DJ, food and wine tasting, a silent auction, an open area for guests to dance and mingle, a full bar, hors d'oeuvres and more. Chemo Noir recipients who have been financially impacted by the nonprofit were in attendance.

Chemo Noir raises money through wine-centric events to help cancer patients offset the out-of-pocket medical costs of fighting cancer. Casey, a Nease graduate, founded the organization after beating cancer herself. Cancer-free for the last four years, Casey named her organization after a night designated for leisure time with her mother, featuring comfort food and wine.

For more information on the nonprofit, visit the Chemo Noir website at www.chemonoir.com.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Katrin Casey and Bill McQueen



ABOVE: Carol Maurer and Waine Banyas

LEFT: Wanda Pettersen, Geri Price and Kelly Whitaker



Carolyn Mathis and Lori Adams



Nora Worrell and Chelsea Anderson



SenioRitas tournament in Ponte Vedra Beach supports fight against breast cancer

The SenioRitas women's 40+ doubles tennis tournament, an event organized by The RITA Foundation, took place Oct. 19-21 at Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Sponsored by Fields Auto Group and The Lighthouse Wealth Management Group at Morgan Stanley, the tournament featured women's doubles matches divided by age and level of play. Age groups were 40 to 54 and 55+. Proceeds from the event support the Mayo Clinic and Baptist Beaches in their fight against breast cancer.

Visit www.the-rita-foundation.org/senioritas for more information on how to donate or attend future events.



ABOVE: The SenioRitas women's 40+ doubles tennis tournament, an event organized by The RITA Foundation to raise money for Mayo Clinic and Baptist Beaches, took place Oct. 19-21 at Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach.

LEFT: The SenioRitas women's 40+ doubles tennis tournament was divided by age and level of play.



Photos by Ansley Ward

Women's Giving Alliance grant cycle to begin earlier this year

The Women's Giving Alliance (WGA) recently announced that its 17th grant cycle will be accelerated, with letters of interest from requesting nonprofit organizations accepted this fall instead of early next year.

The new grant cycle will allow WGA members to ratify grant recommendations at their May 13, 2019 Member Forum, so that approved agencies receive funding beginning July 1, 2019. According to WGA, the organization listened to feedback from agencies suggesting that shortening the cycle would be helpful in their budget planning and leveraging of funding.

Instructions for submitting a letter of interest are posted on the WGA website: www.wganefl.org/apply-for-a-grant. The deadline to submit a letter of interest is Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 at 5 p.m.

WGA, an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, is a collective giving grantmaking organization. Its current focus is on breaking the cycle of female poverty in Northeast Florida. WGA is accepting applications from tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations or units of local government with programs or projects that serve women and/or girls in Northeast Florida (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau or St. Johns Counties), with a specific focus on intervention and prevention.

The grants support organizations whose goals help facilitate systemic change in the lives of women and girls. WGA believes this is done by applying creative, research-based solutions to critical needs and producing measurable, sustainable impact.

"Our grantees are innovative partners in our collective and collaborative model for strategic philanthropy," WGA President Ellen Wiss said. "Grantmaking is at the heart of WGA."

Grant requests of all sizes are welcome. The grants are for two years and are paid in installments. WGA members will make scheduled visits during the grant cycle to monitor progress.

A letter of interest is the first step in making an application for a 2019-2021 grant. Nonprofit organizations that submit a letter of interest may then be asked to complete a request for proposal to complete the application process. To learn more and to apply for a WGA grant, visit www.wganefl.org/apply-for-a-grant. All letters of interest must be submitted online.

Sand Castles

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OCTOBER 25, 2018 - SPECIAL 5TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

- ADVENTURES IN AFRICA
- 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PONTE VEDRA INN & CLUB
- JUDGE JEANINE PIRRO VISITS PONTE VEDRA BEACH

Ponte Vedra 
Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

Welcome to the fall issue of Sand Castles



Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Welcome to the fall issue of Sand Castles, a luxury, lifestyle and seasonal publication.

Five years ago, I met with the publisher and editor of the Ponte Vedra recorder with an idea I had for a quarterly publication called Sand Castles. As a beaches

resident and realtor, I saw the need for a lifestyle and real estate publication with a focus on local stories and events that highlight properties and people who live, work and play at the beach!

We launched our first issue on Oct. 31, 2013 during Florida/Georgia weekend as we welcomed our Georgia fans to Florida! We may be rivals when it comes to football but off the field Georgia and its residents are the No. 1 feeder state when it comes to buying real estate on our First Coast!

Today, as we celebrate our five-year anniversary, we are grateful not only for the readers who support the Ponte Vedra Recorder but for everyone who has helped make this publication a success. Over the past five years we have featured real estate stories from over 60 real estate agents and brokerages from the Beaches to Jacksonville. Our local Market watch written by a broker is a regular feature and in this issue we hear from Kevin Waugaman from Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR. Our contributing writers have covered our nonprofits from the Wolfson Children's Hospital to a grand hotel, the award

winning Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, which appeared in our first issue and this year celebrates its 90th Anniversary! We wrote three Inside the Legends That Lie Among Us stories, and we are reprinting our first legend, as we honor the memory of a war hero, author and physician, Dr. Harold Baumgarten, who died on Dec. 25, 2016.

Many travel writers have shared their adventures and travel tips through the years and we feature two stories, one from Gil Barrera and his adventurous climb on Mt. Kilimanjaro, and our second story is written by Linder Sherrer and her family safari to Africa!

Nine realtors showcase their listings from as far away as a historic home in DeLand, south to Vilano Beach and back home to Ponte Vedra Beach on the boulevard.

Local chef Alice Hickox and owner of Lettuce Do Dinner shares some wonderful recipes for tailgating during the Florida/Georgia game.

Over 50 neighbors and friends joined me at my home in Sawgrass on Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 to meet Judge Jeanine Pirro. She visited Ponte Vedra Beach last week

on her book tour, for her best-selling novel, "Liars, Leakers and Liberals: The Case Against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy." Judge Jeanine held the audience captive during a 45-minute talk followed by questions from the audience! Read about this fascinating story in a book review written by Jesse Hagy, who is a freshman at Bates College.

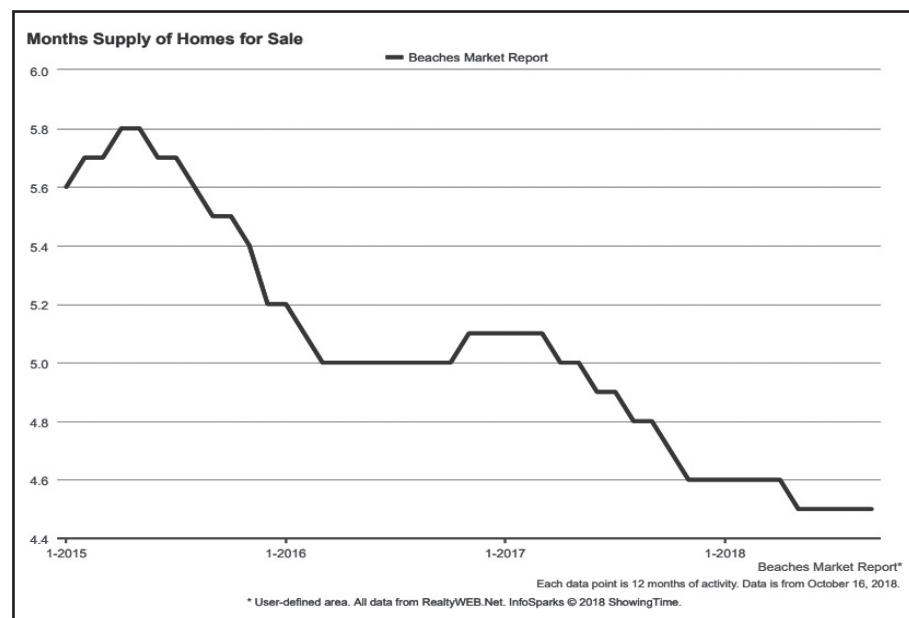
Judson Clarkson with Pools by John Clarkson shares the second part of his story on how to prepare your home for a hurricane. We were fortunate that we were spared the necessity to use this helpful information.

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

Janet Westling, REALTOR, GRI, CIPS
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MARKET WATCH

Look beyond the headlines



From Mayport South to Mickler's Beach;
Fourth quarter, 2018

By Kevin Waugaman

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

THE BIG PICTURE

Nationally, demand remains strong even with the headwinds of continued inventory shortages and rising interest rates.

Many renters still would prefer to own as rental rates continue to increase. Some headlines are reporting a slowdown in home sales; however, if enough inventory existed across markets, all indications say there would be more sales reported this year than last year.

Housing supply is starting to modestly increase, which will begin to reverse the inventory crunch trend, and that is great for a sustainable market. We are still far from a healthy level to keep up with demand but are moving toward a normal market. There is not now a decline in home prices nor have we entered a buyer's market. The rate of appreciation of home prices, however, will continue to slow.

THE LOCAL TRENDS

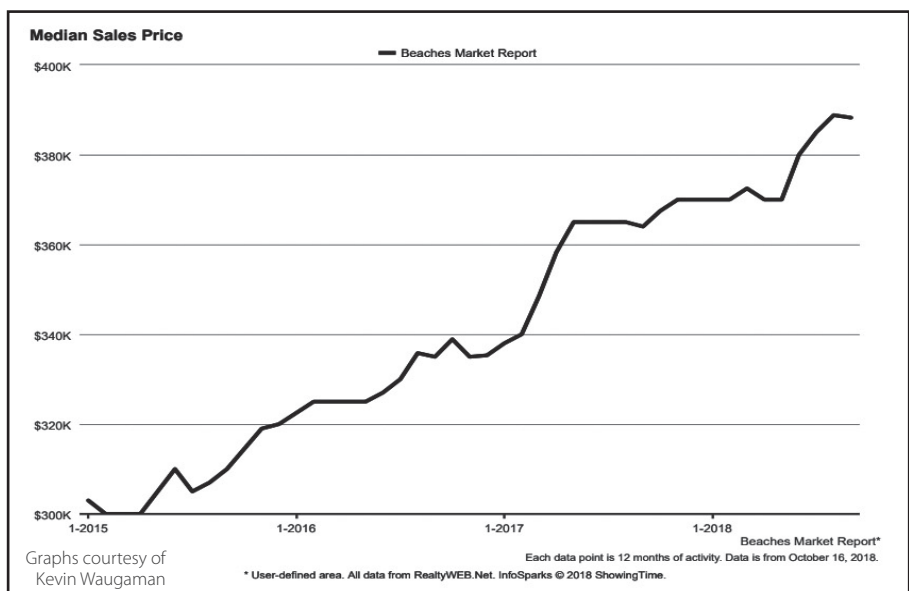
For the First Coast Beaches (the island from Mayport south to Mickler's, from ocean to Intracoastal Waterway), it remains a seller's market.

One of the best indicators of market health is the balance between supply and demand. Limited supply is the continued

issue in the lower price points. As seen in the three-year trend on the Months Supply of Homes for Sale, we remain in the overheated four-and-a-half-month range. This means it would only take current demand four and a half months to absorb the current level of supply. A "normal" market would be around six months supply. The lower the number, the hotter the market.

When looking at supply and demand in the \$1 million plus luxury market, there is continued strength and the inventory is also picking up. The number of homes for sale in September increased 12.3 percent up to 164 units available, while the number of pending sales nearly doubled over September 2017 from nine to 17 units. The result is a 9.6-month supply of homes on the market compared to an 11-month supply one year ago. It would seem, across all price points, sellers are in great position assuming an asking price reasonable to market value and strong marketing horsepower.

When looking at median price per transaction for all price points for the 12 months ended September 2018, there has been an increase compared to 2017 due to market appreciation. In the 12 months ended September 2018, the average price for Beaches residential sales was \$388,250 versus \$364,000 for the same period last year, a 6.7 percent improvement. In our last report in January, we recognized a 10.4 percent year-over-year improvement, so you can see that prices are still increasing, yet at a decelerating pace. Average days on market is 45



Graphs courtesy of Kevin Waugaman



Oceanfront home in Ponte Vedra Beach will WOW you

By Kim Martin-Fisher

Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty

This magnificent estate is located on a 150-foot, elevated lot with a gated entry and porte-cochere, with lush landscaping and a stunning entryway up a stone staircase to the front door.

The first time I entered the home, it took my breath away. Walls of windows and what seems like forever ocean views are captivating. This is an entertainer's dream home perfect for large gatherings, intimate settings or just hanging out.

In 2014, the seller updated and extensively renovated this home from a new metal roof to top to bottom designer finishes. This oceanfront coastal home includes decks to a poolside game room with a built-in bar, a floor to ceiling wine cabinet, a spa-like changing room with a full bath, a huge storage room and a second laundry room.

The oceanfront setting has a chessboard game area and a private beach walkover. There are multiple seating areas to take in the ocean views and the Ponte Vedra lifestyle. Find your way to the beach via five decks and balconies.

The master suite has a two-story wood beamed ceiling that includes a loft area with a fireplace, two balconies and three large closets. The master bath has custom wood countertops, vessel sinks, a massive tub with a walk-in shower and glass tiles that remind you that you are at the beach, designer lighting and the best in finishes.

This home at 1129 Ponte Vedra Boulevard in Ponte Vedra Beach has a total



Photos courtesy of Kim Martin-Fisher and Jennifer Martin Faulkner

1129 Ponte Vedra Blvd.

of five bedrooms, six full baths and one powder room with a total of 7,304 square feet, including a game room/media room off the pool area, two laundry rooms, a kitchen with two islands, custom cabinetry, Wolf and Miele appliances, another wine cooler and a Sub-Zero refrigerator with separate freezer and refrigerator drawers.

Most of all, the views will ignite your senses. This home provides a one-of-a-kind lifestyle close to all that Ponte Vedra Beach has to offer with enough property for your privacy.

This property is represented by Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty, listed by Kim Martin-Fisher and Jennifer Martin Faulkner and offered for \$5,449,000.

Score big points with these healthy tailgating recipes

By Alice Hickox

Lettuce Do Dinner

The best time of the year is upon us: cooler temperatures, dramatic sunsets and the dawn of the holiday season. But for me, football season is always the true marker that fall has finally arrived, often weeks before Mother Nature would have us guess.

As much as I would love to say that I actually sit down and watch football, the real thrill for me is the social aspect of it — friends, family and FOOD! Whether it's gathering in our various homes, or tailgating when the weather is cool, football season brings excitement. But most of the time, I can be found watching the game from the kitchen, looking up mostly to see what I just missed when the entire living room goes into a roar!

As a personal chef, I take a lot of pride in creating healthy, lightened up versions of traditional comfort foods. Many of my clients seek out my service to help assist in dietary goals; whether it's following a doctor or dietician's protocol, or assisting in their own personal health goals. I'm always researching, experimenting and creating healthier renditions of family favorites. In this case, it's football favorites! So, if you are like me, and want all the delicious foods you crave while watching your favorite team, I'd love to share a great turkey burger and flat bread recipe that won't leave you missing the fattier versions of beef burgers and traditional pizza. So, kick things off with these delicious recipes that will score big points at the next game!

RECIPES continues on Page 30

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596 E Kesley Ln., St. Johns, FL
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Market Watch

Continued from 20

compared to September 2017 at 48 days.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Over the next 18 months, it will be important to look beyond the headlines.

Even though the market remains strong, future housing data will lead to reports of possible recession, housing slowdowns and market declines. Make sure you understand the context before pulling a panic trigger. In some areas, it will be a return to normalcy, and yet still may feel like a slump. In other areas, there may very well be pricing corrections. In some cases, data is simply presented in a manner that can be confusing. Fundamentally, we are in a state far more predictive of stability than the years prior to 2006-2007.

Chief Economist of the National Association of Realtors Lawrence Yun believes there is no housing recession over the horizon and says, "Since the word 'bubble' is on the minds of many consumers, it is worth laying out why today's conditions are fundamentally different compared to a decade ago. Back then, lending standards were non-existent, with subprime loans everywhere. By contrast, the lending standards today are still stringent, as evidenced by the higher than normal credit scores of those who are able to obtain a mortgage. That is why mortgage default and foreclosure rates are at historic lows.

On the supply side, there was overbuilding with 2.1 million housing starts during the bubble years. Today, we are just scratching 1.3 million."

In order to look beyond the headlines on the state of the local real estate market, utilize your trusted real estate advisor. It is also important to use a professional to receive analyses on specific property you own or are considering. Many pros will do this with no charge and no obligation. This information can be helpful even if you aren't considering a purchase or sale. Perhaps you are completing a personal financial review, or would like to make sure you are carrying the right level of homeowner's insurance in light of appreciation over the past five plus years. Whatever the reason, make sure you have someone to turn to in order to have the local and relevant real estate information you need.

The decision to sell or purchase real estate deserves great attention to personal objectives. The overall market conditions noted above convey the real estate environment for our area. It is extremely important to drill down to an even more hyperlocal level when evaluating a sale or purchase of real estate. Make sure you consult your real estate professional for analysis on price trends in specific neighborhoods and on the property you are considering selling or buying. This way, you can make a great decision based on your personal circumstances.

Statistics from NEFAR MLS 1/1/2015-9/30/18 for residential property type located on the island from Mayport south to Mickler's, from ocean to intracoastal waterway.



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



SAWGRASS COUNTRY CLUB



40 Northgate Dr.
3 bed/ 2 bath 1,934 Sq. Ft., Great Price. Full Golf Membership incl. (\$30K value)
\$469,000 | Call Daryl Atkins or Jeanie Leapley

HARBOUR ISLAND



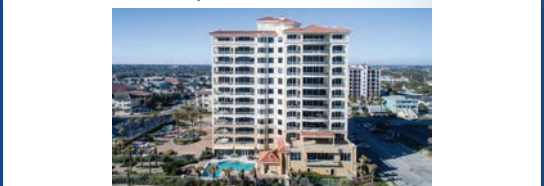
4201 Harbour Island Dr.
3 bed/ 3 bath 2,796 Sq. Ft. + Fla Rm. Recently renovated. Extra Lg. dock & boat slip.
\$549,000 | Call Daryl Atkins or Jeanie Leapley

DESIRABLE PATRIUM



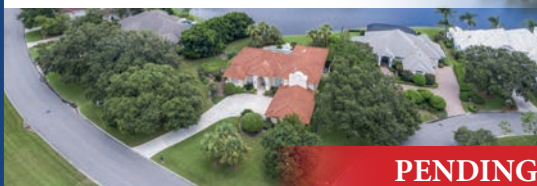
2515 St. Michel Ct. - **OPEN HOUSE SAT. 1-3**
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\$1,965,000 | Call Jacquelyn Bates

SAWGRASS COUNTRY CLUB



344 S. Nine Dr.
4 bed/ 3 bath, 3,200+ Sq. Ft. on corner lot
\$850,000 | Call Mandy Morrow

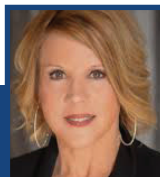
COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE



18 Cumberland Island Cir.
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An entertaining executive's haven

By Clare Berry
Berry & Co. Real Estate

Ponte Vedra Beach has many distinctive neighborhoods, but only one has uniformity of parcel size and views.

That neighborhood is Sawgrass Island, accessible only by traveling over a bridge off Seven Mile Drive in Sawgrass Players Club. Here, every homesite is approximately an acre, and all are surrounded by towering old oaks — pines and palms — as well as the TPC Sawgrass golf courses — either the Stadium, home of THE PLAYERS Championship, or the Valley.

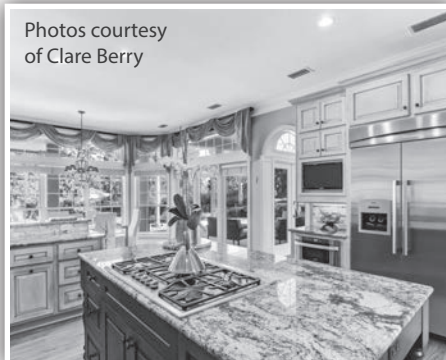
The lucky new owner of 8022 Pebble Creek Lane East will enjoy the privacy 1.12 acres affords — hard to find in Ponte Vedra Beach — as well as views of water and golf, the No. 2 fairway of the lush and natural TPC Sawgrass Stadium course to be exact. The current owners enjoy watching passing golfers in the distance, as well as the birds that fish in the adjacent waters and nest nearby. This is an oasis of serenity near easy access to work, schools, shops and restaurants. The property's outside living space is expansive. It includes a shady covered area that extends along the rear of the home, a summer kitchen, a freeform pool and a putting green! Native landscaping surrounds the fenced backyard. This backyard has been ideal for entertaining a

crowd, rain or shine.

This 6,000-plus square-foot home was built by fine custom home builder Frank Gamel. The timeless design features generously-sized rooms, high smooth ceilings, five bedrooms with en suite bathrooms, warm wood floors, multi-step crown moldings, classic Palladian windows, a separate office with built-ins and storage one finds only in custom homes. From the leaded glass entry, you step into a gracious foyer with windows all around, to take in all the beauty outside, and an open plan that expands in every direction, providing the circular flow perfect for parties. The dining room features a wall of built-ins and still easily accommodates a table for 12. There are two family rooms (one up and one down), three fireplaces and a roomy three-car, side-entry garage with generous storage. The kitchen features Thermador stainless appliances and plentiful food prep and serving areas — perfect for everyday needs as well as for parties.

This is truly a home that has it all — prime location, timeless design and quality construction. It's perfect for the entertainer in you, and at the end of the day, when no one's around, it provides a refuge from the hustle and bustle of the day.

This property is represented by Berry & Co. Real Estate, listed by Broker Clare Berry and offered for \$2,095,000.



Photos courtesy of Clare Berry

8022 Pebble Creek Lane East



Relax, unwind, escape and enjoy

By Michelle Floyd
First Coast Sotheby's International Realty

Welcome home to your own private paradise where you can leave the hectic pace of the everyday behind and focus on the serenity afforded by the long views of coastal marshes, ancient old oaks, tropical palms and tidal estuaries.

Located at 307 15th St. South, this nearly two-acre property is conveniently located in the heart of Jacksonville Beach. It is just a short bike ride to the beach and steps away from the 18-hole championship golf course across the street, but also discreetly tucked away among lushly landscaped grounds with a meandering paver path among the 100-year old trees leading to the pristine Florida marshes and Intracoastal Waterway. On a chilly night, enjoy the ambiance and warmth of the open-air firepit with plenty of seating for guests, or spend a lazy weekend afternoon on the Intracoastal Waterway in a kayak launched from the private dock. You'll discover fishing, bird life and secluded islands virtually untouched by humans.

All of these outdoor opportunities beckon from the expansive decks that extend the entire width of the home, but you may find it difficult to pull yourself away from the exquisitely finished interior spaces. The spacious great room is an unexpected blend of form and function, simultaneously accommodating a grand

piano, wine cellar and bar. The combination of these make this unique space the consummate place for entertaining, particularly in conjunction with the nearby butler's pantry and nicely appointed kitchen, suitable for a gourmet chef.

When friends and family gather together in the heart of the home, there is ample space for everyone in the family room and breakfast areas that comfortably extend from the kitchen. This area also boasts a separate study and work area.

Even with such a terrific capacity to accommodate a crowd, this home's layout allows for plenty of privacy. There are three distinct bedroom wings, two with master suites. The upstairs master suite enjoys breathtaking sunset views over the marshes and tidal waters; plus, it features an inviting sitting area with a fireplace. The room simply inspires serenity.

Guests enjoy private access to their area via a separate entrance, highlighted by a foyer and ornate staircase. With stunning views and abundant natural light, guests may be so "at home," it will be difficult for them to leave!

Perfectly designed and immaculately maintained, bring your kayak and your binoculars to see for yourself how suitable this home is for all your needs.

This property is represented by First Coast Sotheby's International Realty, listed by Michelle Floyd and offered for \$1,373,000.



Photos courtesy of Michelle and Jack Floyd

307 15th St. S., Jacksonville Beach



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Photo by: Jessie Preza

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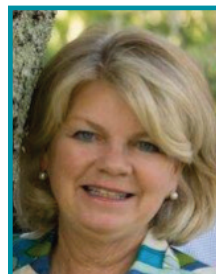
THE CARLYLE

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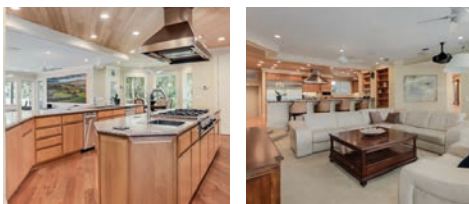
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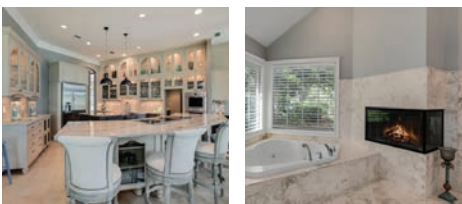
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A FAMILY'S ADVENTURES IN TANZANIA

By Linda Sherrer

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

A photo safari has always been at the top of our family's bucket list. This summer, I made that dream a reality for our family of 12, including four grandchildren ages 7-12.

After months of research, I found a fantastic safari provider, Mark Homann of Homann's Africa. The planning began in January for a July trip, which is winter in Africa and an ideal time to visit, with temperatures ranging from the 70s during the day to 50s at night.

On July 7, our family began its journeys from various locations in the U.S. to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. Several went thorough Dubai, and others through Paris and Amsterdam. By whatever route, it's 22 hours in the air or about 12,000 miles, but worth every second.

We arrived in Tanzania late and our accommodations were at the Legendary Lodge, a mid-1920s coffee plantation converted into a wonderful and welcoming hotel. The next day, the trek across Tanzania began with an hour-and-a-half-single engine plane "ride" to the Legendary Serengeti Camp several hundred miles west of Arusha and Kilimanjaro.

The Legendary Camp's tent accommodations and the "reasonably" dependable electrical service were fine, but the 14-member pride of lions that claimed the area as "home" was a bit ... interesting, especially as they roared just outside our tents! Nobody, however, enjoyed that aspect of the trip more than Christy, Todd and Cate. The nearly grown cubs actually came to Christy and Todd's tent, took the kerosene lantern that marked the path from the dining tent and decided to play soccer with it. Thankfully the flame was out!

We spent three nights at the camp and the animal viewing was beyond description — hippos, wildebeest, lions, zebras, giraffes, Cape buffalo, jackals, hyenas, cheetahs and leopards. We were in the midst of the famous migration of the wildebeest and zebras. The most vivid memory was seeing, from no more than 20 feet, a lioness take down and kill a wildebeest to feed her four cubs. You might think that was a shock for folks from Atlantic Beach, but as Cate said, "It's the circle of life." The two guides we had were incredible, so knowledgeable, personable, funny and so wonderful with the grandchildren and their voluminous questions.

Our next destination was the absolutely incredible Mwiba Lodge, far south on the Serengeti. The animal viewing, again, was incredible. We also had an extraordinary experience with an indigenous, nomadic group called the Hadzabe. Very primitive with ancestry dating back to the African Pygmy tribes, they are hunters and gatherers and are sadly heading toward extinction. Additionally, we visited a Maasai village, and I, always ready to participate, carried water in a 5-gallon bucket on my head from the local watering hole while dressed in traditional Maasai robes and jewelry ... priceless!

Probably the highlight of our stay at the Mwiba Lodge came on our last night when our twin grandchildren were served a birthday cake since their 13th birthday is coming up shortly. Our granddaughter, Holland, blew out the candles and proceeded to try to cut the cake. Our guides had made a beautifully decorated cake out of solidified elephant dung! A few minutes of furious cutting and frustration were followed by the Lodge staff getting a really good



Photos courtesy of Linda Sherrer



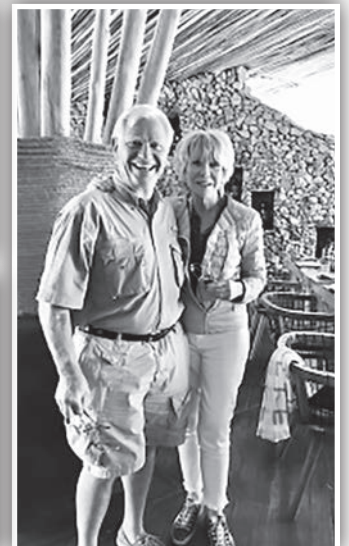
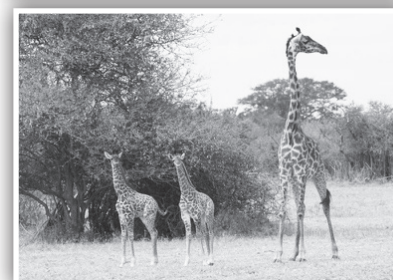
laugh and then serving us a terrific birthday cake, one the twins will never forget.

Our last animal-viewing experience was from July 17 to 19 at a spot in the southern Serengeti called Little Chem Chem. Once again, we were in tented accommodations with great and very imaginative cuisine. The highlight at Chem Chem was the elephants. We were within a few feet of them and one had a "stare down contest" with our grandson, Will, who sat, transfixed, only a few feet away!

On July 19, we bid a tearful farewell to our wonderful guides and flew to Zanzibar to spend three days on Mnemba Island. Words cannot describe this piece of paradise in the Indian Ocean. If you can believe it, this was our R&R after the safari! The accommodations defy description, the chef was extraordinary and the scuba diving was terrific with visibility of nearly 100 feet!

On July 22, we left the island and began a 31-hour trip back halfway around the world from Zanzibar to Orlando. In retrospect, I believe I gave the family something so much more valuable than material presents; I gave memories of an incredible experience that will live a lifetime.

For a story on another local group's trip to Tanzania, this time to hike Mount Kilimanjaro, flip to page 42.



First Coast

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Two oceanfront condos merged into one offers all the perks of a single-family home

By Jennifer Sexton

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

Today's luxury homebuyer looks for a home that stands out in a crowd and captures their heart. When the homeowners of this stunning unit at the WatersEdge, located at 123 1st Street South, #402, in Jacksonville Beach, took on the project of combining two units, they realized how rare such oceanfront space was within a smaller boutique-sized condo building with only 18 units.

This magnificent four-bedroom/four-bath oceanfront condo now measures an impressive 4,473 square feet and offers 180-degree panoramic views of the ocean. One can enjoy all the benefits of living in a spacious single-family home without the inevitable stress of maintenance. The HOA fee includes water, electric, gas, trash and exterior insurance. Storage is never an issue with ample closet and storage spaces in the unit, plus the owner is granted two additional storage closets on the fourth floor.

Drive up to your oceanfront retreat and let the security gates open and gently close behind you as you park in one of two covered private parking spaces. Two additional designated spaces are just outside of the garage in case you have guests. Zoom up to the fourth floor, enter your home and exhale as you're met with unobstructed views of the Atlantic and a modern bright and open floorplan. The entertainer inside you will enjoy the finely appointed kitchen that flows

into the oceanfront dining room, as the owners spared no expense with professional Thermador stainless-steel appliances. The dining space is centered by a gas fireplace and offers access to an oceanfront glass balcony complete with a summer kitchen. Kick your feet up in the massive family room while watching football or enjoying the views of the moon reflecting over the water and listening to smooth jazz over the surround sound.

Three of the four bedrooms are conveniently en suite with walk-in closets, while the larger fourth suite is a self-contained area with a bathroom and closets that can be used as a theater room, office or an in-law/teenager hideaway. All rooms feature custom-cushioned window seating so one can relax and take in the mesmerizing backdrop. Indulge in the master retreat with glorious views, a second balcony, a second gas fireplace, two walk-in closets, a jetted tub and a walk-in shower with two shower heads.

This extraordinary condo is large enough to comfortably host the kids, grandkids, out-of-town guests and your pets! With its central location just south of Beach Boulevard on the oceanfront, you can venture out to a festival at the SeaWalk Pavilion, stroll on the beach for miles, fish, surf or simply enjoy your favorite beverage poolside. Welcome home!

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Jennifer Sexton and offered for \$1,475,000.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Sexton



123 1st St. S, #402, Jacksonville Beach



Photos courtesy of Heidi Zawacki
Displayed are a few examples of how Zawacki has added pieces of furniture or subtle accents that have transformed her living room without spending too much money.

DECORATING ON A DIME

By Heidi Zawacki

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

I know we all love to flip through magazines dreaming that our homes can look like this or that, but guess what? It can! And you can do so without spending too much money.

I love to envision how that piece of furniture can look like that or wonder where they found that unique chair. My approach is similar: I have the look I like, and I have really started to make the changes by first getting my base color for our home. I love creams, whites, soft blues and linens. I have found that lightening up a room by adding a coat of paint or painting a dark piece of furniture really makes a room pop!

Take a look at these pictures of our living room and how I have added piece by piece the furniture that I have found so that I could decorate on a dime! I found two cream-colored bamboo tables at an estate sale for \$150 each. I peeked underneath and found the brand: Tomlinson and Co. I looked online and found that they were over \$2,000 for a pair!

I needed another texture, so I found a unique gold table at HomeGoods for \$299. The mirror on the top gives off a

pretty glow when the morning sun hits it. I have recently found a new passion of the timeless design item, the blue and white porcelain. I have always loved it and finally hit a jackpot of an estate sale in Marsh Landing Country Club and was able to get a lot of pieces, so my collection had a nice boost!

Another way to lighten up a room is getting some white sheers. You can find inexpensive white sheers for \$20 to \$40 a panel at Target. You would be surprised to find the amount of light you'll feel immediately!

Mixing inexpensive won't make your home feel cheap if you find a way to nicely incorporate slipcovered pieces or accents of gold and linen texture. I had these older dated slipper chairs that were refreshed by creating a custom cream-colored slipcover!

Below are some of my favorite places around Jacksonville to find that unique piece or transform something from boring to beautiful!

- Consignment Barn, San Jose Boulevard
- Antique Market, San Jose Boulevard
- Decorative Fabrics/Agnes Agatha, Phillips Highway
- China Cat Estate Sales (www.chinacatstatesales.com)
- B. Langston Estate Sales (blangston.com)

The John B. Stetson Mansion

By Joanelle Wood Mulrain

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Florida Network Realty

The John B. Stetson Mansion in DeLand, Florida, is an 1886 masterpiece that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and as one of the “Top 300” historic homes in America. It is known to be the first luxury estate built in Florida before the 20th century. Noted Philadelphia architect George T. Pearson also designed Elizabeth Hall at Stetson University, as well as Stetson’s 34,000-square-foot home in Philadelphia (now gone).

Henry Flagler built a railroad spur to the estate to get construction materials to the residence and so Stetson’s friend, Thomas Alva Edison, could install one of the world’s first home electric systems. The original, intact electric circuit box is adorned today with hand-written tags by Edison.

The Mansion’s nearly 10,000 square feet of space blends the past and present, which features high-end, modern conveniences. The three-story main residence (8,200 square feet), school house/guest house (800 square feet), carriage house/garage (1,750 square feet), zen-inspired meditation garden, pool, cellar, putting green, greenhouse and gazebo sits on 2.3 acres of manicured, matured landscape within a gated compound. It features nine bedrooms, 13 baths, six gas fireplaces, a professional kitchen, additional kitchens and areas for catering.

Around 95 percent of the original residence is fundamentally intact, including original shingles. Many of the Edison appointments were kept and carefully stored as modern lighting was installed. Opulent, Gilded Age craftsmanship details include a carved wooden wall with original glass from a 19th century French chateau. There are approximately 10,000 leaded glass window panels, shimmering copper leafing in the main hallway with glass embedded in the ceiling and its intricately designed parquet wood floors are nationally recognized.

When the present owners found it forgotten and hidden away, they bought it, invested blood, sweat and tears and commenced on a two-year renovation with intentional subtlety. They secured more than 325 high-end vendors and sponsors from the U.S. and Canada to join the cause. The grand opening was positioned as a benefit to fund DeLand’s Museum of Florida Art’s youth programs.

The grand mansion has had many visitors through the years — names synonymous with success: Astor, Vanderbilt, Carnegie, Mellon, Flagler, DeBary, Tiffany, President Grover Cleveland and more.

The Stetson Mansion is a unique property — it is a private residence, yes. But, it is also a turnkey business opportunity for a new owner as an attraction with an



Photos courtesy of Joanelle Wood-Mulrain



international brand name that benefits the DeLand community and beyond. It increases regional tourism — as evidenced by its TripAdvisor ratings of “excellence.” It has multi-functional uses, such as other American venue models. It could be connected into a triangle of tourism with

Villa Vizcaya and The Ringling. It offers five-star docent-guided history tours and event venues for events, such as live piano and a concert series, weddings, product launches, gift shop/café, educational workshops, performances, movie screenings, celebration dinners, dining/tea/garden/arts

and cultural events, nonprofit headquarter opportunities/a fundraising site, family gatherings, celebrity/writer/musician/cultural residencies, corporate or university alumni meetings and business opportunities for experiential learning.

For two months the Mansion and grounds are turned into a magnificent Christmas Tour where the owners dress the mansion with over \$100,000 dollars of beautiful and extravagant holiday ornaments and where 12,000 or more attend. Significant proceeds are donated annually to a local charity.

With more than 68 million tourists coming to Florida annually — 1,000 moving into Florida daily — this is an opportunity to own a piece of Americana and brand it with legacy.

The price is \$3.2 million. The value is priceless as this is one of America’s historical gems and certainly one of the leading Florida and Southern masterpieces.

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty and listed by Joanelle Wood Mulrain.

Recipes

Continued from 21

This turkey burger recipe is lean and juicy! Turkey burgers can often be dry and lack flavor. So, one of my secrets to making sure you have a juicy burger is to add some

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TPC SAWGRASS

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On the Island, a finely-appointed pool home on an acre overlooking TPC Stadium's #2. \$2,095,000.

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Photos courtesy of Alice Hickox

finely minced or grated onion, as well as a few table spoons of ketchup. For two simple ingredients, they pack a lot of moisture and flavor. To lighten this burger up even more, you can skip the bun and serve open face over a grilled portabella mushroom cap and topped with all of your favorites.

Lean and Juicy Turkey Burgers (Serves 4)

- 1 pound lean ground turkey
- 1/2 medium onion, finely minced or grated (juice drained off)
- 2 tablespoons ketchup
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon sea salt

- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 4 whole wheat hamburger buns

Grate or finely mince onion. If grating, use the finest side of the grater. It will accumulate a lot of juice, so drain that off.



Combine the onion and the rest of ingredients, mixing with your hands just until thoroughly combined. Form into four patties. Preheat the grill or griddle pan and brush with oil or spray with nonstick cooking spray. (Ground turkey likes to stick!). Grill four to five minutes per side of medium heat, being careful not to overcook and dry out. Top with your favorite burger toppings.

And now for an easy, delicious flatbread recipe that has "fancy" written all over it; try this in lieu of pizza at your next gathering.

Rosemary Flatbread with Grapes, Bacon and Goat Cheese

(Serves 4)

- 1 package of Naan Indian Bread (found at Publix and Costco)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 sprigs fresh Rosemary, roughly chopped
- 20 fresh red grapes, halved
- 3 strips of lean, center cut bacon
- 1 small log fresh goat cheese
- 1 small bag part skim mozzarella cheese, grated
- Honey (optional)

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit. Cook the bacon in nonstick or a cast iron skillet



for five to six minutes or until crispy. Drain on paper towels and cool. Once cooled, crumble bacon. Meanwhile,

wash and dry grapes, then halve each grape length wise. Remove the rosemary sprigs from the stem and rough chop. Take each flatbread and brush with olive oil. Sprinkle a thin layer of mozzarella cheese, then crumble goat cheese on top of mozzarella. Take the halved grapes and press into cheese. Sprinkle with crumbled bacon and rosemary. Bake for about seven minutes until cheese is melted, being careful not to overcook edges of bread as it's pre-cooked. Just before serving, drizzle with honey and cut each flatbread into four equal pieces.

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The Ponte Vedra Carlyle: The perfect location for the perfect lifestyle

By Janet Westling

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

In real estate you often hear buyers and sellers talk about their location of their property. In fact, it is one of the most important factors in your real estate investment.

The Ponte Vedra Carlyle, a 47-unit condominium located at 600 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, is located in the center of one of the most prestigious areas in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Built in 1995, across from the Atlantic Ocean in Ponte Vedra Beach, the Carlyle Condo offers its residents a unique experience with a personal concierge at the front desk to check in guests and monitor the gated security.

A superior location, the Carlyle is adjacent to the Ponte Vedra Beach Lodge & Bath Club Fitness center and pool and just steps to the hotel and ocean.

Step inside Unit 109 at the Carlyle on the Boulevard. Experience a spacious, sophisticated and beautifully designed home in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach.

This first-floor unit is warm and inviting, with 2,122 square feet and three bedrooms

and two and a half bathrooms and an abundance of windows throughout. The grand living room features a gas fireplace and is flanked by built-in bookcases and French doors.

Savor your morning cup of coffee in your roomy kitchen and cozy dining space watching your favorite show. Invite your friends to join you at the beach, just steps away and dine at one of Ponte Vedra's finest resorts. In the evening watch the sunset off your veranda and retire in your stunning en suite master bedroom.

Enjoy all that Ponte Vedra Beach has to offer, with a membership initiation included to the Lodge & Club. The Lodge & Club, a AAA Four diamond boutique hotel, opened its doors to guests and members in 1989. Its distinctive Old World charm and beautifully designed Mediterranean architecture attracts guests and members from all over the world.

Your guests can stay in one of the lodge's 66 oceanfront rooms and suites. In the morning, join them for a long walk on the beach, or a swim in one of the two heated pools and exercise in the fitness center next door to the Carlyle. Finish your afternoon with High Tea at the Lodge or dine in one of the Lodge's four restaurants.



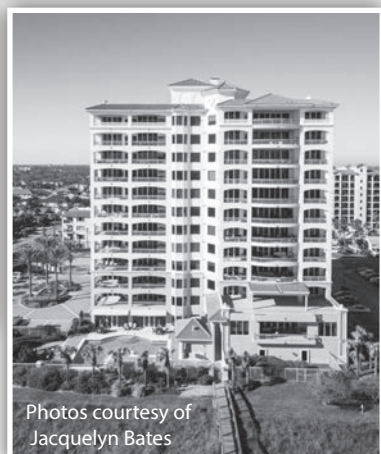
Photos courtesy of Janet Westling



About 34,000 residents call Ponte Vedra Beach home. Thousands come from around the world to play on its beautiful uncrowded beaches and enjoy world-renowned golf courses and tennis facilities each year. Visitors are often astounded to hear tales of Ponce de Leon landing on its shores as well as German saboteurs during World War II. Its past is intriguing, and its present is exciting.

Walk the beach, watch waves roll in from foreign shores and put a shell to your ear to hear whispers from the past. Then breathe deeply of the ocean breeze and you will catch a hint of Ponte Vedra living, which all will agree is simply the best.

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Janet Westling and offered for \$748,000.



Photos courtesy of Jacquelyn Bates

**917 1st St. South, #702
Jacksonville Beach**

Jacksonville Beach condo offers best of beachside living

By Jacquelyn Bates

Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty

Located in the southeast corner of Marbella, the most exclusive and prestigious condominium in the Jacksonville Beach area, this spectacular property offers three bedrooms, an office, three and a half baths and 4,435 square feet of luxurious beachside living.

The property also features a chef's kitchen with granite, Viking six-burner gas range, Thermador double ovens and a center island opening to a spacious family room with built-ins, wooden beams and expansive windows with beach views. There is a formal living room with a gas fireplace and coffered ceilings and a gracious dining room with tray ceiling and columns. The office has a custom desk, built-ins and sliders to the west side balcony. The property also has two en suite guest rooms with balcony access. Overall, it features interior finishes that combine

traditional and coastal accents and appeal.

Entertain or just relax on the expansive oceanfront terrace that wraps around from east to south, which is perfect for capturing sunrises. Or savor the sunsets from the western terrace. Privacy is promised with only 22 homes in the building, two on each floor and each with its own elevator entry.

Additional highlights include security, a building superintendent, club room, fitness center, garage parking and climate-controlled storage. This property is convenient to all Jacksonville Beach has to offer, including shopping, restaurants, the SeaWalk Pavilion and the Pier. It's also close to the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and less than 30 minutes to the airport. The best of the best ... come "sea" and savor!

Located at 917 1st St. South, #702, in Jacksonville Beach, this property is represented by Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty, listed by Jacquelyn Bates and offered for \$1,965,000.



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7BR | 7BA | 2HB 9,000 sq. ft.
\$13,400,000



1189 Ponte Veda Blvd.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
4BR | 3BA | 1HB 6,409 sq. ft.
\$5,700,000



1129 Ponte Veda Blvd.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 6BA | 1HB 7,304 sq. ft.
\$5,449,000



1 Ocean Ridge Ct.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 5BA | 1HB
\$4,975,000



2403 S. Ponte Veda Blvd.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
6BR | 5BA 7,070 sq. ft.
\$2,300,000



120 Regents Pl.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
4BR | 5BA | 1HB 5,012 sq. ft.
\$2,150,000



349 San Juan Dr.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 4BA 4,484 sq. ft.
\$1,998,000



8021 Pebble Creek Dr.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 5BA | 1HB
\$1,595,000



129 Blooming Ln.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 4BA | 1HB 3,229 sq. ft.
To be constructed
\$870,000



139 Blooming Ln.
Ponte Veda Beach, Florida
5BR | 4BA | 1HB 3,208 sq. ft.
To be constructed
\$855,000



1864 Beachside Ct.
Atlantic Beach, Florida
3BR | 2BA 1,828 sq. ft.
\$749,000



932 1st St. N. Unit 101
Jacksonville Beach, Florida
3BR | 3BA | 1HB
\$715,000

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121 Bristol Pl.
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5BR | 7BA | 2HB 9,489 sq. ft.
\$3,925,000



2401 & 2403 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
6BR | 5BA 7,070 sq. ft.
\$3,050,000



567 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
5BR | 4BA 2,455 sq. ft.
\$2,895,000



ek Ln. E.
ch, Florida
5,163 sq. ft.



8039 Whisper Lake Ln. W.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
4BR | 3BA | 1HB 3,822 sq. ft.
\$1,350,000



128 Lamp Lighter Ln.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
4BR | 4BA 4,369 sq. ft.
\$1,139,000



169 River Marsh Dr.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
4BR | 3BA | 1HB 4,511 sq. ft.
\$1,095,000



nit 303
ch, Florida
3 2,393 sq. ft.



600 Ponte Vedra Blvd. Unit 101
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
2BR | 2BA 1,675 sq. ft.
\$649,000



650 A Ponte Vedra Blvd.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
2BR | 2BA | 1HB 1,759 sq. ft.
\$429,000



185 Bermuda Ct.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
2BR | 2BA 1,147 sq. ft.
\$260,000

90 YEARS OF PONTE VEDRA INN & CLUB



By John Peyton

President, GATE

This year marks the 90th anniversary of Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and 35 years since my father, Herbert H. Peyton, and the team at GATE acquired Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. It has been a tremendous pleasure for our family to be part of such an iconic and historic facility.

We have a great appreciation for the fact that Ponte Vedra Inn & Club is more than just a club or just a resort, it is an extraordinary destination for both members and guests. That is why over the years, we have invested heavily to ensure that we provide best in class facilities, services and amenities. In recent years, The Surf Deck Grille, our oceanfront restaurant, was reimagined, allowing us to delight members and guests with a full-service oceanfront dining experience paired with local and sustainable ingredients. Both the Peyton and Atlantic Houses have recently been remodeled, as was the fitness center and golf club house. Late last year we opened a new facility that offers cryo and compression therapies. These are terrific treatments to expedite the healing of muscle pain following strenuous exercise.

Even after these enhancements, we aren't sitting idle and are embarking

on two large-scale projects to further enhance our property. First, the Ocean House, which was constructed in 1961, will be torn down to make way for a new guest facility. The new Ocean House is expected to open in early 2021 and will feature 41 state-of-the-art, high-end guestrooms and suites. Plans are also underway to expand The Spa and add additional treatment rooms and lockers. This 18-month process should commence sometime next summer and will allow us to better serve spa guests.

In addition to investing in the property, our leadership also recognizes that hiring and retaining the best employees is paramount to the success of Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. From recruitment to ongoing training, a high priority is placed on ensuring that we have the very best talent to serve our guests.

Investments in our employees and our facilities are key elements in our ability to retain our Five-Diamond Award rating from AAA for 17 years in a row. The team works diligently every day to create unique and memorable experiences for our members and guests. After all, families have been enjoying our special place in North Florida for many years and we look forward to being a part of their memories for years to come.

90 YEARS continues on **Page 35**

Tips on preparing your pool for hurricanes

This is a two-part article on how to prepare your pool for hurricane season. The first part appeared in the previous edition of Sand Castles in July.

By Judson Clarkson

Vice president of residential pools,
Pools by John Clarkson

In the first part of this article, I discussed whether people should drain their pool or lower the water level in preparation for a hurricane. During this second part, I will discuss what to do if you decide to drain your pool, other preventative measures that should be taken and what should be done after the hurricane passes.

If you choose to drain your pool before the storm (and likely needed after the storm), there should be a hose bib in your pool equipment. Attach a garden hose and run it to where you would like to drain the water on your property, turn on your pump to run the system, open the hose bib and water from your pool will start draining. Keep an eye on the progress or set a timer to keep checking the level so you don't get distracted and let the pool drain below the waterline.

Other preventative measures include adding chlorine to your pool, even if you have a salt chlorinator, and circulating it as much as possible before shutting the equipment off. It is recommended to turn off all electric power to the pool equipment at the circuit breaker. If you have a gas heater, it is recommended to shut off the valve supplying gas in case the line gets compromised during the storm. If you live in a low-lying area and are concerned with your equipment area flooding, it is possible to disconnect your pump and store it in a dry room as a flooded pump will likely need parts replaced. In most cases, pool owners opt to shut off the equipment and then wrap any exposed electrical equipment with a waterproof material.

The last general question we get is, "Should I throw my pool furniture into my pool?" It is ideal to place any loose furniture and objects that live in the pool area inside the garage or house. If that is not possible, you can place them gently inside your pool to prevent them from becoming projectiles in the storm. The downside is the furniture could scrape and consequently damage the plaster finish on your pool.



The other concern is the chemicals in your pool may cause damage to your furniture.

After the hurricane has passed, drain the pool as needed to its normal level. If there is a heavy amount of debris inside the pool, use a pole and net to manually remove the debris as needed so the pump and filter don't get clogged. Once the pool is clean, inspect all the electrical equipment and make sure all valves are in the proper position. If everything is dry and all connections appear to be intact, turn the power back on at the breaker and get the pump running. If you hear any strange noises or smell anything burning, shut the equipment off and call a professional. If the equipment fires off, it is time to test your chemistry. It is ideal to stock up and store chemicals in a safe place before the

storm so you can then shock the pool and add chemicals as needed. You may need to vacuum sand out of your pool and depending on how much debris goes through your filter, you may need to replace your filter elements after you get the pool back up and running. Monitor your system closely to ensure everything is operating properly.

If a storm heads our way and you don't feel comfortable doing some of the tips above in preparation or after the storm has passed, contact an FSPA approved pool professional who will be able to assist you. Keep in mind, however, in the days leading up as well as the weeks after, professionals will be inundated with service calls as we all try to get through the storm safely.

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Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

90 Years

Continued from 34

We hope that you have had the opportunity to celebrate our milestone anniversary with us by attending one of our themed events, experiencing our unique services in the spa or tasting a specialty drink in our bars. It has been an exciting time for us and already we are looking forward to celebrating our centennial in 2028 and beyond.

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INSIDE THE LEGENDS THAT LIE AMONG US

An interview with Dr. Harold Baumgarten, Jacksonville Beach resident and D-Day Survivor

This article was originally published Oct. 31, 2013 in the first edition of Sand Castles. It is being reprinted to honor the life of Dr. Harold Baumgarten, who died on Dec. 25, 2016.

By Janet Westling

Sixty-nine years ago, on June 6, 1944, Harold Baumgarten, a 19-year-old army private from the Bronx landed on a Normandy beach in France. The much-awaited invasion began at dawn on a cold, stormy morning with high seas, turbulent waters and 15-foot waves.

The landing did not go as planned. Under heavy German fire from bunkers on the top of the cliffs, Baumgarten and one other soldier from his landing crew of 30 made it to shore.

He sustained five wounds in 32 hours. Three were life threatening. He was one of the lucky ones. Over 10,000 allies were injured or killed that day, and 2,499 Americans died. This D-Day survivor lived to tell his story.

For 44 years, Hal Baumgarten never spoke about D-Day. He returned from the war, continued his education, married his wife, Rita, raised three children, endured 24 corrective surgeries and became a physician healing others.

But in 1988, on his first trip back to Normandy, that changed. Looking out on the beach, he could see his buddies who died.

“On a visit to the American cemetery in section D was the grave of my lieutenant and all my guys who landed with me,” recalled Baumgarten. “I looked up at Rita as I knelt over the graves with tears in my eyes and said that I now know one of the reasons God saved me: He wants me to be the spokesman for these people. They can’t speak anymore; no one will ever know their names or who they were. So, I started speaking.”

D-DAY REMEMBERED, SOLDIERS NOT FORGOTTEN

From the French to the British, to CNN, the History Channel, Tom Brokaw, Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg and the World War II Museum, Baumgarten has spoken to and been interviewed by them all — and more. He has shared not only the horrors of war with great detail but vividly recalls the names of his buddies who died on an Atlantic beach in Normandy, France, across the ocean from where he lives today.

Baumgarten and his wife Rita live in a beautiful condo overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in Jacksonville Beach. They have lived here for over 22 years. Baumgarten practiced medicine in private practice in Jacksonville for over 30 years. He spent the last six years before his retirement as a physician with the Veterans Administration Clinic.

Baumgarten has written two books with the prodding of his friend, the author and historian Stephen Ambrose, whom he met in Louisiana at the University of New Orleans.

“You can’t just speak about it,” Ambrose told him. “You have to write about it.”

In 1994, “Eyewitness on Omaha Beach” was published. The revised edition was published in 1999. His second book, “D-Day Survivor” was published in 2006. Today, his books are used in the History department at West Point and VMI.

On June 6, 2000, Baumgarten was the veteran speaker at the opening of the World War II Museum in New Orleans.



Photos provided by Janet Westling

Dr. Harold Baumgarten, a Jacksonville Beach resident and D-Day survivor who passed away in 2016, stands with his autobiography. He said he recalls telling his wife, Rita, during a visit to the American Cemetery that God saved him so that he could “be the spokesman for these people.”



The actor Tom Hanks, who played Captain Miller in Steven Spielberg’s “Saving Private Ryan” followed Baumgarten on stage.

“He is the real thing; I am just an actor,” said Hanks. “His story is amazing.”

After the speech, director Spielberg approached Baumgarten to tell him that the opening scene of “Saving Private Ryan” was inspired by Baumgarten’s oral history of events. Today they are friends and Baumgarten was a surprise guest onstage at the Kennedy Center honoring Spielberg.

In August, I sat down with Baumgarten for over four hours in his home. It was a beautiful summer day, the sky was clear and the ocean seas were calm. I listened as Baumgarten shared his recollections of D-Day. He started from the beginning with his induction in the military and assignment to the 116th Infantry of the 29th division.

THE STRONG, THE BRAVE, THE BEST ... OUR GREATEST GENERATION

Assigned to the Stonewall Brigade, located in the crown heights of Plymouth, England, Baumgarten of company A/116th Infantry began to train for the “First Wave” on D-Day.

“We didn’t know it at the time,” recalled Baumgarten. Gen. Charles Gerhardt of the 29th was the former quarterback of the West Point football team. (In 1916, Gerhardt was the quarterback for West Point in the 30-10 upset win over Notre Dame, their only loss that year. The Fighting Irish were led by famed freshman George Gipp.)

“He knew Eisenhower and Bradley because they were athletes at the Point,” he said. Baumgarten’s outfit included players from the championship baseball team, championship football team and championship boxing team of the European theater of operation. Part of their training was 20-mile marches across England setting records.

“So, our general said to Eisenhower, ‘We are the best here, so you have to let us be the first to land on D-Day,’” Baumgarten said. “So, they put us under the command of the First Infantry.”

For three months along the coast of England and Wales, they climbed cliffs, conducted practice landings and made preparations for the largest amphibious invasion in world history. They were told to burn their original gear and given new gear. It was then they knew they were going to be the first to land. Their first wave gear included morphine, bandages, a gas mask, seasick pills and a combat jacket with grenades.

Sun, sand and serenity in TPC Sawgrass

By **Julianne Parish**
Watson Realty Corp.

Become a part of the coveted Sawgrass community, host to the world-famous PGA tour event, THE PLAYERS Championship. This home sits on the TPC Dye's Valley golf course, one of the finest courses in the country. Nestled between mature trees in the sought-after Players Club, this stunning brick home offers picturesque windows and soaring ceilings, allowing for bright, expansive views.

The unique, spacious floor plan is perfect for enjoying friends and family or finding your own tranquil retreat in one of the many separate living spaces. The home features a gourmet kitchen complete with Carrera marble countertops, a large cooking island, a double oven, high-end appliances, a wine chiller and a huge peninsula to accommodate kids or guests while cooking.

Newly renovated bathrooms include a fabulous master bath with a soaking tub and a separate



8120 Seven Mile Drive

frameless shower, a Jack-and-Jill bathroom and three more bathrooms. This home provides five expansive bedrooms, formal dining, an office, a bonus room off of the four-car garage and a separate guest suite with private entrance. The list goes on and on. In total, this residence features 4,287 square feet of interior living space, plus a sparkling swimming pool and spa, a screened-in

lanai and a serene backyard overlooking the golf course. This home is minutes to A-rated schools, beaches, shopping, night life and restaurants. Enjoy exclusive membership to Sawgrass Country Club and its variety of dining and social events. Relax at the 24,000 square feet of Sawgrass Beach Club with Olympic-sized pools, seaside bars, dancing, casual dining or



Photos courtesy of Julianne Parish

fine dining. Your luxurious beach and golf lifestyle awaits you!

Visit the property website to take a 3D virtual reality tour and to view a video, floor plans and dollhouse views: sites.eagleeye-media.net/8120sevenmiledr/?mls.

This property, which is located at 8120 Seven Mile Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach, is represented by Watson Realty Corp, listed by Julianne Parish and offered for \$999,999.

Baumgarten

Continued from 36

THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM: A PARADE AND PRAYERS

In April 1944 a parade took place at their camp in Blandford, England. The first battalion of the 116th Infantry 29th Division marched in the parade while the 29th division band played. Gen. Eisenhower was in attendance. Two-thirds of the men who marched that day never returned home.

A few days before deployment, Baumgarten and a few other Jewish soldiers were told they could attend Jewish services and Sabbath dinner before they shipped out.

The services were held in the small English village of Dorchester in their local Baptist church. The villagers placed the Jewish Star over the Cross and for a short time, the church became their synagogue. The church members donated their food rations to provide a Sabbath dinner to the young Jewish men who were preparing to ship out. Baumgarten attended the service and prayed. On D- Day, he wore a jacket that bore the Star of David and the words "From the Bronx." He wanted to let that Germans know who they were fighting.

The First Wave, also known today as the suicide wave, was the first to land on June 6, 1944. They went to shore at the western part of Omaha Beach at Dog Green sector, which was the most heavily defended. Their mission, explained Baumgarten, was to take the beach, capture the towns of Isigny-sur-Mer, St. Lo, Pointe du Hoc and eventually Germany.

THE WAR ROOM

Inside Baumgarten's home is a room he calls the "War Room." The walls are lined with photos that

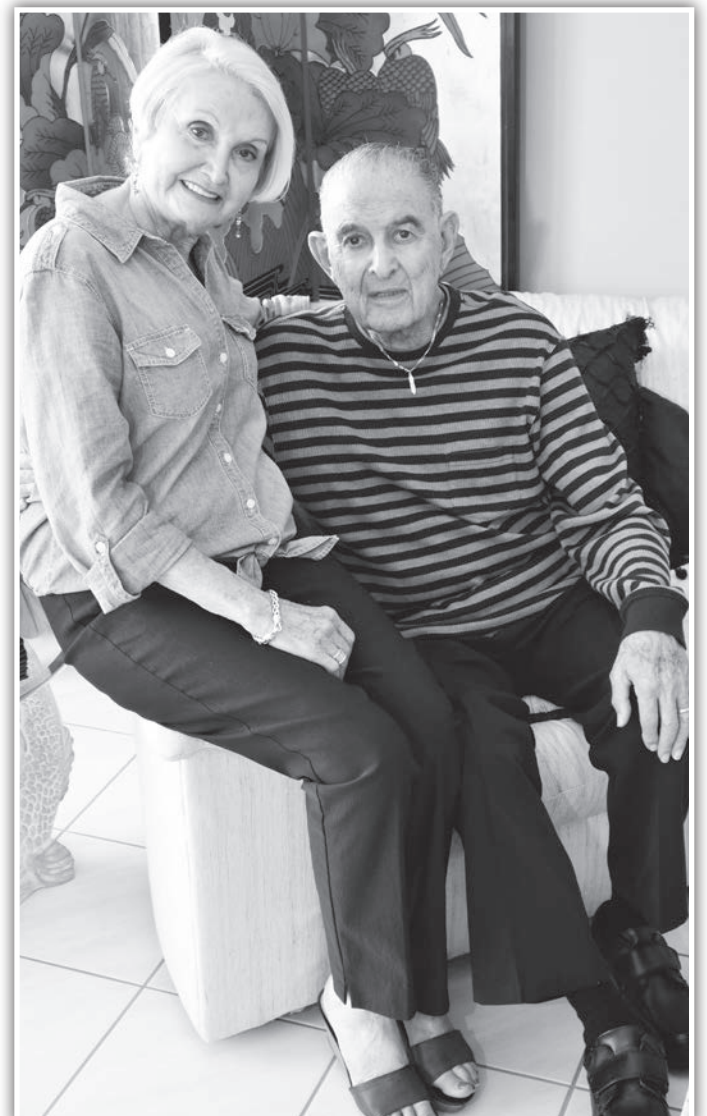


Rita and Harold Baumgarten with actor Tom Hanks

have a special place in his heart. They include, among many, the photo of French President Jacques Chirac, who awarded the French Legion of Honor to Baumgarten in 2005; as well as Tom Brokaw, who interviewed Baumgarten on NBC Nightly News; and Bob Dole at his 80th birthday celebration and opening of the Bob Dole Institute of Politics in Lawrence, Kansas. Prominently displayed is the print of his outfit the Stonewall Jackson Brigade. In 2007, he received a proclamation from the Florida Senate. After, he spoke at Florida State University, where Tom Brokaw set up an endowment in his name in their War Museum for \$400,000.

Today, Baumgarten, 88, conducts interviews with print and television journalists, and gives speeches at colleges, libraries and museums. When speaking, he refers to himself as a survivor with a mission to make sure these men are never forgotten. He recently was interviewed for Vanity Fair TV and the History Channel in 2014. Baumgarten and his family plan to attend the 70th Anniversary of D-Day on June 6, 2014, in Normandy.

Over 16 million men and women wore our uniform in World War II. This is the story of one, but all were and will forever remain heroes.



Rita Baumgarten with husband, Harold.

Photos provided by Janet Westling



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SERENITY FOUND in Ponte Vedra Beach

By Belk Ingram
Ponte Vedra Club Realty

Ponte Vedra Beach is synonymous with both golf and white sandy beaches, and this home keeps you in close proximity to both!

Gracing a 1.2-acre pristine lakefront lot in Marsh Landing Country Club, this five-bedroom home embodies privacy, peace and tranquility, making it sure to impress. As the lucky new owner, you will enjoy 180-degree lake vistas and natural areas unlike any other. Prepare to find paradise waiting for you inside the custom mahogany double glass front doors of this 4,600-plus square-foot stunner!

The fabulous first floor includes three bedrooms, an oversized living room with a custom 6-foot stone gas log fireplace and coastal elegance features with tongue and groove ceilings in the great room, kitchen and sunroom. There are not one but two sunrooms in this home, both perfect for morning coffee to start your day. The gourmet kitchen, perfect

for the cooking aficionado, includes a Sub-Zero stainless-steel refrigerator, double oven, Viking professional gas cooktop and exhaust.

The spacious third-floor bonus room includes a professional grade audiovisual theater system great for Friday's family movie night after a long week!

Only the finest of interior finishes include 3/4-inch solid oak flooring, Italian stone, granite and marble countertops, a wet bar with wine cooler, privacy Plantation shutters throughout, two fireplaces, a security system and intercom. Other highly notable features include a sprinkler system, central vacuum system and continuous hot water circulation.

Nearly every room of this one-of-a-kind home has been upgraded by the current owners. This home, featuring Anderson windows and doors, was built off grade with high elevation and experienced no flooding from past hurricanes. Ownership includes exceptional street appeal on this premier, highly sought-after location.

Preferred membership initiation fee pricing for the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, The Lodge & Club, Epping-Forest Yacht & Country Club and The River Club is available to the purchaser of this property exclusively through Ponte Vedra Club Realty.

Located at 104 Linkside Circle in Ponte Vedra Beach, this property is represented by Ponte Vedra Club Realty, listed by Belk Ingram and offered for \$1,239,000.



Photos courtesy
Belk Ingram

104 Linkside Circle



EXQUISITE ESTATE in Harbour Island offers 180-degree panoramic views

By Jennifer White
Kearney Real Estate

Located in Northeast Florida, Ponte Vedra Beach is a seaside haven known for its pristine beaches and famous resorts with championship golf. Ponte Vedra is home to the PGA Tour, the ATP, THE PLAYERS Championship and is in close proximity to the renowned Mayo Clinic and downtown Jacksonville, home of The Jacksonville Jaguars. Ponte Vedra is located within St. Johns County, one of the wealthiest counties in Florida that boasts A-rated schools ranked at the top of the state.

Marsh Landing Country Club, a premier private club located in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach, offers an 18-hole golf course, tennis, fitness and clubhouse. The developers of MLCC painstakingly preserved indigenous trees and plants while master planning this beautiful community!

Harbour Island, an exclusive enclave within MLCC, features a private yacht basin and custom estate homes with distinguished and varied architectural styles.

The home at 24760 Harbour View Drive, with its 180-degree panoramic views of the

Marsh and Cabbage Creek and a navigable water way to the Intracoastal, is a prime example of the breathtaking architecture and rich landscaping that Harbour Island is known for. Custom built by Frank Gamel, this Southern, Tidewater-style stunner with eastern exposure and privacy galore is nestled on 1.72 acres. It is warm and inviting from its lush, indigenous landscaping, to its wraparound porch with rocking chairs and porch swing.

This home boasts five bedrooms, six and a half baths with a fitness room, a butler's pantry and an impressive office with river-reclaimed cypress flooring and custom alder built-ins. No detail was overlooked, from the Hardie board and brick façade, to the slate composite roof with metal accents.

The gourmet kitchen is fully equipped and overlooks the large, inviting family room with floor to ceiling picture windows showcasing the marsh and Intracoastal. You can live the indoor/outdoor lifestyle by opening your stacking doors to the lanai featuring a fireplace and infinity salt water pool with hot tub. The master suite is located on the first floor with the three other bedrooms with en suite bathrooms, and the second office/flex space is located upstairs. The fifth bedroom/bathroom is located above the two-car garage.

This home comes with a 40-foot slip located within the yacht basin and can easily have a dock in the backyard. This home is a 10-plus and won't disappoint!

This property is represented by Kearney Real Estate, listed by Jennifer White and offered for \$2,275,000.



Photos courtesy
of Jennifer White

24760 Harbour View Drive



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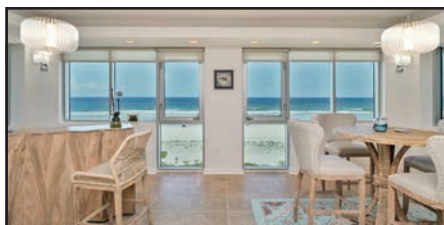


**STUNNING CLASSIC WITH
BEACH ACCESS**

Picturesque home in a charming neighborhood off Ponte Veda Blvd. Features large kitchen, a downstairs master, study & game room. Access available to the Old Ponte Veda Condos amenities. 3 bedrooms & 2.5 bathrooms. \$649,500



Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032



**TWO OCEANFRONT CONDOS
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Magnificent 4 bedroom/4 bath oceanfront condo in S Jax Beach measures an impressive 4,473 sqft, offers 180' panoramic views of the ocean. Enjoy all the benefits of living in a spacious single-family home without stress of maintenance! \$1,475,000



Call Jennifer Sexton
904-463-3326

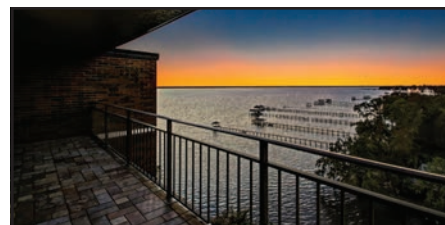


VILLAGES OF VILANO

Beach Where You Live! This beautiful patio home provides a haven within this well-maintained beach-to-intracoastal community just steps from the tennis courts & clubhouse; bring your fishing pole, swimsuit, tennis racket & pickle ball gear. The cul-de-sac home features a great room with fireplace & 2 split bedrooms. \$315,000



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904-687-8000



**RIVERFRONT CONDO LIVING
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Enjoy gorgeous sunsets, panoramic river views, amenities, and more from this 12th floor updated condominium near Downtown. Features 2 BR 2 BA, 1169 SF, pool, clubhouse, fitness, dock and gated entry. Walk to shopping and dining from this move-in ready unit for just \$292,000!



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305-509-1396



COASTAL BEAUTY

Step inside 34 Valencia St. and experience a bright, coastal, traditional home that has been redone, re-designed & re-imagined! With over 2100sf, this 3BR/2BA perfect family home is located east of A1A in one of the most sought-after neighborhoods in Ponte Veda Beach! \$624,987



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**IN THE HEART OF
PONTE VEDRA**

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. \$698,000



Call
The Lisa Barton
Team
904-705-1382



**MOVE-IN READY ON
EXCEPTIONAL LOT**

Located on one of the most extraordinary lots in all of The Plantation, this property recently underwent a makeover and is move-in ready. The beauty outside of the home is reflected throughout with stunning views of the pool, lake, and golf course creating the ideal space for indoor-outdoor living. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. \$998,000



Call Tina Webster
904-982-7330



THE POINTE AT PONTE VEDRA

Luxury 3BR/2BA, 1,700sf condo just steps from the beach. Enjoy the fabulous views from this 2nd floor unit. Pristine with modern updates and ready to move in. Includes a private 1-car garage with covered walkway to unit. \$650,000



Call Anita Vining
904-739-1626

To be included in the next issue
publishing January 31st,
please contact April Snyder
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3937
april@opcfla.com



VILLINI AT GLEN KERNAN

This stunning Provence-inspired 4BR/3.5BA, 3,637sf home exhibits exquisite attention to detail & quality construction by Pineapple Corporation as well as a no-commute lifestyle. Step into the main residence where walnut stained floors gleam in the artful stairway, custom wine room & throughout this move in ready home. The open chef's kitchen has a Thermador gas cooktop, double ovens, and Country French cream cabinets. \$675,000



Call Peggie Black
(904) 616-2651



ST. JOHNS FOREST

Bright, open 5BR/3.5BA floorplan located on very private preserve homesite. Plenty of room for a pool. 3207SF. All new black stainless appliances in the expansive gourmet kitchen. Located near shopping and Class A St Johns County schools. \$389,500



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Feel as though you have entered a European resort town & surround yourself with shady trees that are steps away from your private boat slip with floating dock with no add'l HOA fees. Private tropical oasis with Intracoastal views & brand new custom kitchen! 5 bed/5.5 baths and 4626sf. Private pool with 2-story covered lanai & sauna. \$1,395,000



**Call Devon Witt
904-607-1281**



WALK TO THE BEACH

Embrace the best of both worlds. Upscale beach living in a quiet, established neighborhood with all the amenities you would expect. Nestled on a lake, just steps away from the community pool & clubhouse, the private Oceanwalk dune walkover awaits to connect you to the sands of the Atlantic Ocean. 4BR/3BA, 3288sf. \$775,000



**Call Lew Walters
904-806-3047**



**WATER TOYS REQUIRED ON
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Truly a water lover's paradise and a fisherman's dream come true. This 5 bedroom/3.5 bath, 3,520 sqft home sits on the St Johns River next to Huguenot Park and Ft George. Covered dock, boat lift, lot 90 x 264. \$795,000



**Call Jennifer Sexton
904-463-3326**



L'ATRIUM

Beautiful, updated 2BR/2BA, 1340sf coastal home in the highly desirable L'Atrium neighborhood. This home boasts beautiful & stylish finishes including ship-lap on the walls, Plantation shutters, white cabinets in the kitchen, tile floors & warm coastal colors. \$325,000



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904-382-0527**



MOVE IN READY IN JCP!

Meticulously maintained ONE OWNER Light & Bright Home in Julington Creek Plantation with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, PLUS a Bonus Room/5th Bedroom. Recently upgraded w/gray plank tile throughout 1st level. Open floor plan which is great for entertaining friends and family. \$355,000



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904-610-7652**

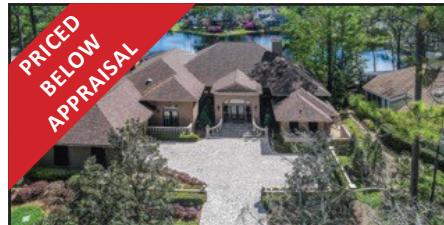


BEAUTIFUL WATERFRONT VIEWS

This home has one of the most private waterfront & preserve lots in Plantation Oaks. Featuring 5BD, 5BA and 4,368 sq. ft with brand new interior paint and carpet. You'll love your tropical paradise pool area. \$899,000



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MARSH LANDING

Build equity day one in this 4BR/3BA 3837sf home! Stroll down the Magnolia-lined drive to the elegant paver courtyard, through glass front doors to a Palladian design circular foyer. Waterfront views reflect off the Ebony Wood flooring. Designer kitchen has California built custom cabinetry, Viking commercial range, Jenn-Air double oven, 72" subzero ref/freezer, pull-out shelving & appliance garage. Stunning outdoor living w/ pool & water views. \$975,000



**Call Rosemary Kristoff
904-333-4841**

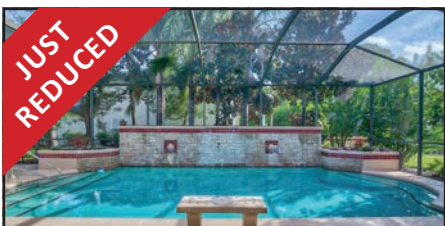


TURNKEY BEACH CONDO

Oceanfront turnkey property features a 2 bedroom/2 bath Condo, which comes completely furnished. This gated community features amenities such as pool/spa, clubhouse, basketball/tennis courts, and beach walkovers. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$999,000



**Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032**

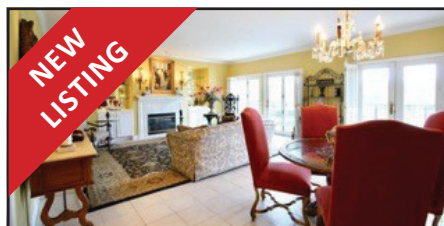


WATERS EDGE

Wonderful 4/3 pool home in desirable Sawgrass Players. Your heated pool & fabulous screened-in lanai is great for entertaining included with summer kitchen & covered porch. The foyer enters into a large living & dining. The updated kitchen has granite countertops, backsplash, and ss appliances, and desk. The newly remodeled master BR has custom cedar lined his & hers California closets. Just reduced \$20,000. Now \$600,000.



**Call Michele Stewart
904-707-5225**



THE CARLYLE

Experience a spacious, sophisticated & beautifully designed home in the heart of PVB. This first-floor unit is warm & inviting with 2122sf, 3BR/2.5BA & an abundance of windows throughout. The grand living room with a gas fireplace is flanked by built-in bookcases & French doors. \$748,000



**Call Janet Westling
904-813-1913**

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PONTE VEDRA RESIDENTS CLIMB MT. KILIMANJARO

This is a two-part article on a local group's summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro. The first part focuses on the trip's preparation for the climb and travel to the destination. The second part will focus on the climb itself and will be printed in the next edition of Sand Castles in January 2019.

By Gil Barrera

Never having read Ernest Hemingway's "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," its title always conveyed to me a sense of a distant and exotic location. It was certainly one that I never thought I would visit in my lifetime. In December 2017, however, my good friend, Will Montoya, asked me if I would be interested in going to Africa to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro sometime in August 2018.

Without hesitation, I answered yes. While this would not be our first ever hiking/climbing trip, it would definitely be the most challenging. We would be joined by fellow Ponte Vedra Beach resident Charles Callaghan, as well as other mutual friends from St. Johns County and the Orlando area.

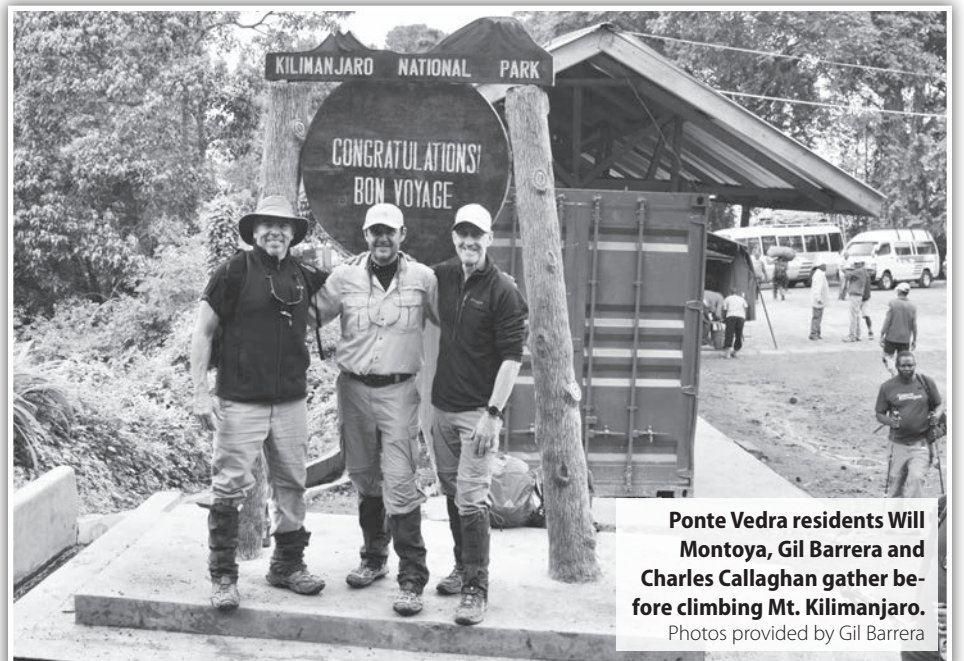
Preparations for the trip began almost immediately, which involved checking the outfitter's website for their recommended training program to be physically ready for the hike, as well as what equipment and gear we would be required to bring. A review of the gear list revealed I would need to purchase a larger capacity daypack as well as an assortment of cold weather clothing that would be needed in the latter stages of our climb. In addition, the web-

site was helpful in conveying the country entry requirements and recommended immunizations when traveling to Tanzania.

To be physically prepared, my focus was to improve my stamina and endurance through consistently more rigorous cardio and lower body workouts as the date for our trip approached. Although good physical fitness was stressed, it was not a guarantee for success on the mountain and conquering the effects of high altitude. The latter is more of being genetically predisposed to acclimate to higher altitudes and how quickly your body can become accustomed to a reduced oxygen environment. Unfortunately, the best way to train for high altitude is to train at high altitude, a geographically difficult challenge when you live in Florida.

Before we knew it, our departure date had arrived. After stopovers in Atlanta and Amsterdam, we arrived at Kilimanjaro International Airport on Aug. 18 at 9 p.m. local time. Once we cleared customs and collected our luggage, we were met by a representative from our outfitter, Ultimate Kilimanjaro, who would be driving us to Moshi. Nearly 23 hours after departing Jacksonville, we were all ready to get to our hotel and get some rest.

The plan had been to sleep in the following morning and get adjusted to the new time zone. That came to an abrupt end at 5 a.m. when we were awakened by thunderous music and signing emanating from a church located directly behind our hotel. Not to be outdone, the mosque located one block further up the street fired up its loudspeakers calling all the faithful to prayer.



Ponte Vedra residents Will Montoya, Gil Barrera and Charles Callaghan gather before climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro.
Photos provided by Gil Barrera

At this point, it was clear that sleep time was over, so we went ahead and got ready for breakfast.

After breakfast, we had the opportunity to go in town for some shopping and sightseeing. We visited a gallery where many local artists displayed beautiful hand carved objects and paintings depicting scenes of local wildlife, Maasai tribesmen, and of course, Kilimanjaro. Needing some extra socks for the trip, Will asked our guide if there was a store nearby where he could purchase some. He took us to the Tanzanian version of REI, where you could "rent" but not purchase socks and underwear. Needless to say, the rental option didn't sound very appealing, so we ended up finding another store to make the purchase.

We returned to the hotel early in the afternoon for our briefing with the guides that would be leading our trip. Robert, our lead guide, explained to us what we could expect during different portions of our trek. He also emphasized the need to pack your trail duffel with only your must-have items as the trail porters were limited to carrying 33 pounds, including your sleeping bag. We were responsible for the contents of

our daypacks and we could carry as little or as much as we desired. This was also our first opportunity to meet the other hikers that would be joining our group: Chuck and Susan from Washington, D.C., Paul and David from Montreal and David and Cord from Cape Town, South Africa.

After an early dinner, we returned to the hotel to organize and weigh our gear. Once that task was complete, everything not needed on the hike was packed and set aside to be left behind in the hotel's storage closet. I even remembered to get my earplugs out prior to going to bed. The church and mosque were not going to wake me up two days in a row!

The following morning, we got up early to finish our last-minute packing before meeting for breakfast. Around 8 a.m., our bus, along with our guides, arrived at the hotel to finish last-minute paperwork and to conduct our initial health check measuring our oxygen saturation and heart rate. This would establish a baseline for our twice daily health checks for the remainder of the trip. At 9 a.m. sharp, we departed the hotel for the three-hour drive to the Londorosi gate located on the western edge of Kilimanjaro National Park.



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Judge Jeanine Pirro

BOOK SIGNING

JUDGE JEANINE signs in at Sawgrass

By Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Judge Jeanine Pirro, the author of “Liars, Leakers and Liberals: The Case Against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy,” signed in at Sawgrass Country Club at the Westling house on Thursday, Oct. 18.

Over 50 friends and neighbors met the bestselling author, judge, former prosecutor, TV personality and host of Fox News’ “Justice with Judge Jeanine,” which airs every Saturday at 9 p.m.

Since its launch on July 17, 2018, Pirro’s book has been a bestseller, and even the President has weighed in on it, tweeting, “Our great Judge Jeanine Pirro is out with a new book, ‘Liars, Leakers and Liberals, the Case Against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy,’ which is fantastic. Go get it!”

Judge Jeanine spoke for 45 minutes with an engaging account of the “deep state’s” plot to unseat the 45th president of the United States. The reserach she conducted was extensive and made a case that was compelling, believable and led her to uncover the facts behind the anti-Trump conspiracy. Everyone who attended the book event left with five copies to share with friends.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Lauren Bradshaw, Jean Hettinger and Lauren Del a Cruz



Tamara Renuart and Diana Radi



Rep. Cindi Stevenson, Christine Ondek, Gloria Dongara, Silvia Nett Fisher and Shamiran Eivaz



ABOVE: Shami-
ran Eivaz, Jenny
Smith, Frances-
ca Rutherford,
Janet Westling,
Tracie Rampley
and Michael
Rutherford



Lana Kiesel, former Vietnam POW Hank Lessane, Linda Lessane, Suwanne Shuntich and Lou Shuntich



LEFT: Pirro
speaks to guests
during the
book signing.

Review: Judge Jeanine’s new book provides inside look at opposition of Trump presidency, reflects on TV personality’s life

By Jesse Hagy

In “Liars, Leakers and Liberals: The Case against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy,” Judge Jeanine Pirro exposes the widespread hypocrisy and calculated lies of the “deep state” while also detailing her close relationship with President Trump and his family.

Her longtime friendship with President Trump allows her to provide a unique perspective on the Donald Trump before the politics and the relentless attacks by the media. Judge Jeanine interviews a numerous number of important figures inside the White House, including Jared Kushner and John Kelly, which gives the reader an inside look at the people behind Trump government’s agenda. In this book, she holds both Democrats and Republicans accountable for their words and actions against President Trump.

Judge Jeanine specifically calls out “Rotten Ryan” — Paul Ryan — for his lack of leadership as speaker of the house and for not supporting President Trump or his agenda. She blasts Ryan for failing to provide adequate funding for Trump’s border wall in the March 2018 Omnibus Spending Bill. The bill allotted \$1.6 billion for the wall, which was more than \$10 billion short than had been promised.

Beyond politics, the book provides an inside look at some of the obstacles that Judge Jeanine had to overcome to work and prosper in a mostly man’s world of the judiciary. (When running for district attorney in 1993, she had to issue a statement saying that her husband would take care of her kids if she couldn’t get home at night.) She also provides a glimpse into some of her personal battles including one with cancer, which she fought head on, barely even taking a day off work. Judge Jeanine explains how uranium is not just used for making bombs, but is also extremely important for nuclear medicine. She expresses her anger at the Uranium One deal for this reason.

Whether conservative or liberal, readers across the political spectrum will benefit from the lessons and insights that Judge Jeanine imparts in her book. It is undeniable that Judge Jeanine has been successful both on and off TV. “Liars, Leakers, and Liberals: The Case Against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy” is a must read for anyone who wants to learn about the innerworkings of the opposition to the Trump presidency and Judge Jeanine’s incredible life.

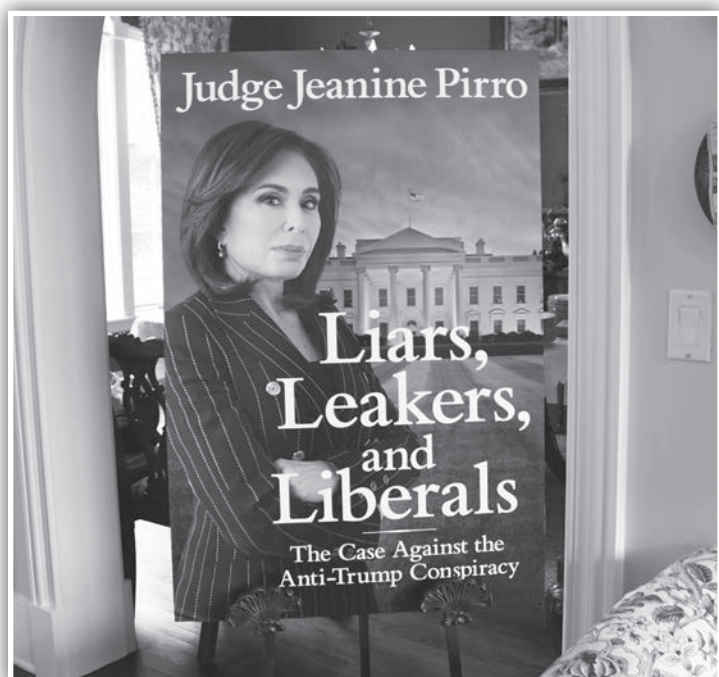
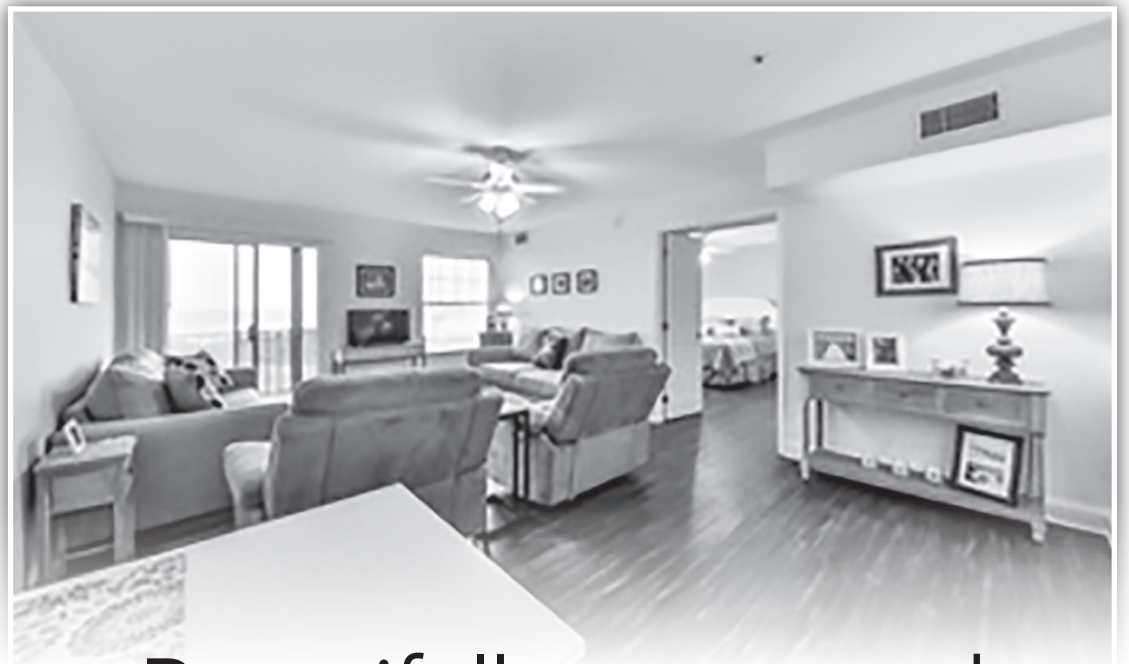


Photo by Susan Griffin

Judge Jeanine Pirro’s book cover on display at a recent book signing.



Beautifully renovated VILANO BEACH CONDO provides endless amenities

By Michele Segas and Lindsay Viering

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

Are you looking for a great beach home? Would you like to scale down from your primary residence or search for a turn-key, affordable vacation home with expansive ocean views? It doesn’t get better than Villages of Vilano, an oceanfront community situated between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intra-coastal Waterway.

Welcome home to Vilano Beach, a charming community located just north of historic St. Augustine and just south of Ponte Vedra Beach, home of the PGA Tour. Sit on your porch and watch the sun rise over the ocean, while sipping your favorite beverage. Play tennis or pickleball while private landscapers take care of the grounds. There is also 24-hour security and a fully equipped gym and sauna. Inclement weather? No problem: Enjoy the heated indoor pool as well as an outdoor pool for the summer months.

Park your car in the enclosed underground parking garage with an attached storage closet for all of your beach toys. The community offers a private walkover to the beach with a covered cabana and picnic table for your entertainment needs. And there is more to offer you in this seaside community. Enjoy boating? Your very own



**110 Ocean Hollow Lane, #313
St. Augustine**



Photos courtesy of Michele Segas and Lindsay Viering

boat ramp and launch is on the west side of the island community, guiding you to the Intra-coastal Waterway. Boat storage, you say? Park your boat and trailer in the designated boat and RV parking lot or purchase a boat slip to moor your boat dockside.

This beautifully renovated two-bedroom/two-bathroom condo is located on the top (third) floor with an elevator to whisk you up or down! The

condo has a coastal vibe with a neutral pallet throughout. The second bedroom has a Murphy bed, offering office space as well as a guest room for your friends and family.

Located at 110 Ocean Hollow Lane, #313, in St. Augustine, this property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Michele Segas and Lindsay Viering and offered for \$318,000.

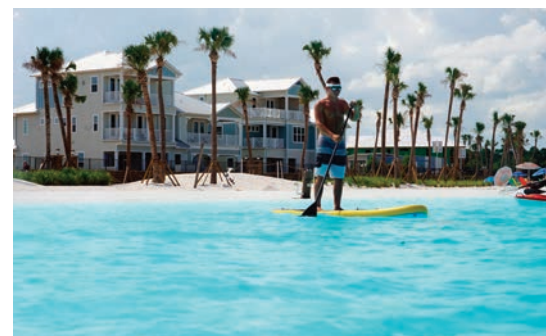


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19th annual Pumpkin Patch pops up at Lord of Life Lutheran Church field

Hundreds of pumpkins have popped up across the front field at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Ponte Vedra Beach in time for Halloween and the fall decorating season.

This is the 19th annual Pumpkin Patch for the church and its major fundraising event of the year. The signature event is also known for its unique homemade pumpkin pies baked with pumpkins from the patch, which are \$10 each.

“One thing we love about our patch is that we have such a large field in front of our 7-acre property, that really feels like you are in the country walking around,” event organizer Deb Nye said. “We have lots of different sizes and colors this year, as well as mini pumpkins for the kids.”

The pumpkin patch is open Monday to Friday, 2 p.m. until dusk; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to dusk; and Sundays from 11 a.m. to dusk, at 276 Roscoe Blvd. North through Oct. 31. Pumpkins are sold based on height and girth display stand.

For more information, go to www.LordOfLifePVB.org or on Facebook at @lordoflifepontevedra.



Photo by David Luck, Community Hospice & Palliative Care

A young surgeon looks over at a partner in crime, Jack-Jack from *The Incredibles*, at Community Hospice & Palliative Care’s Halloween Doors & More event on Oct. 20 at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall.

Community Hospice & Palliative Care’s Halloween Doors & More takes guests to a galaxy far, far away

On Saturday, Oct. 20, just in time for Halloween, Community Hospice & Palliative Care’s Halloween Doors & More event transformed the Jacksonville Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall into a galaxy far, far away.

As an homage to the cinematic classic “Star Wars,” this year’s theme was “May The Doors Be With You.” It was a star-studded event with appearances

from Harry Potter, Dorrie, Nemo, Shrek and Darth Vader himself.

Made possible by the 2018 presenting sponsor, THE PLAYERS Championship, kids and parents at this year’s event enjoyed a day of magic, fantasy and more. Proceeds from Halloween Doors & More benefited Community

HALLOWEEN continues on Page 48

Beware of costume contact lenses this Halloween



Dr. S. Akbar Hasan
Guest Columnist

Dr. S. Akbar Hasan
Special to the Recorder

Costume contact lenses give people the ability to dramatically change the appearance of their eyes, but many Halloween enthusiasts may not be aware of the hidden dangers

in using non-prescription lenses.

Every year, seasonal retailers offer popular cosmetic contact options like black-out and zombie-style pairs to unassuming consumers who don’t think twice about purchasing “one-size-fits-all” lenses.

The simple truth is that the sale of contact lenses without a prescription — even to those with perfect vision — is illegal. Contacts are medical devices that need to be properly fitted by an eye care professional, and the damage ill-fitting contacts can cause to your eyes are nightmarish to say the least.

Scary aftereffects

Countless teens and adults have dealt with serious eye issues after wearing non-prescription costume lenses. There are several ways that these seemingly harmless eye enhancers can ruin your vision.

First — and perhaps most commonly — over-the-counter lenses can scratch the outer layer of the eye. Since they are not properly fitted or sized for the wearer, the lenses can scrape the eye surface, resulting in corneal abrasions that cause persisting pain. Other symptoms include redness, discharge, light sensitivity and the feeling that something is stuck in your eye.

Another condition called a corneal ulcer presents similar symptoms to abrasions, but its aftereffects can permanently disturb your vision. When ulcers heal, they scar over, and that scar tissue can keep you from seeing clearly. Ulcers usually result from poorly maintained contact lenses — a common issue for seasonal buyers who do not regularly use contact lenses and don’t know how to safely handle them.

The most alarming adverse effects of using illegal costume contacts lenses stem from infections in the eye. Many brands of non-prescription lenses are not packaged in sterile solution, increasing the risk of infection. A study by the American

HASAN continues on Page 48

PONTE VEDRA BEACH BRANCH LIBRARY HOSTS TEEN HALLOWEEN PARTY



Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library

Teens from Ponte Vedra High School, Landrum Middle School, Palm Valley Academy, Valley Ridge Academy and elsewhere gather at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library’s first-ever DJ-hosted teen Halloween party on Oct. 9. The event featured entertainment from DJ. Demetris of McGee Entertainment, pizza, soda, candy, a book raffle and more.



Darth Vader and a Storm Trooper take a photo with one of the kids.



Photos by David Luck, Community Hospice & Palliative Care

Hulk, Thor and Captain America take a little time away from world-saving to come to the Community Hospice & Palliative Care's Halloween Doors & More event Oct. 20.

Halloween

Continued from 47

PedsCare, a program of Community Hospice supporting children living with serious illnesses and their families. About 94 percent of the costs incurred by Community PedsCare are not reimbursed by insurance.

For more information about Community PedsCare, visit www.communityhospice.com/services/community-pedscare.



ABOVE: A princess and her queen smile for the camera.



RIGHT: Shrek stands with his love, Fiona.

Hasan

Continued from 47

Association of Ophthalmology found that wearing cosmetic contact lenses made users 16 times more likely to get keratitis, a type of serious eye infection that can result in blindness if not treated promptly with antibiotics.

Best practices for contact lenses

You can safely enjoy colored contact lenses this season with the correct preparation and planning. An eye care professional can fit your eyes for contacts, recommend trustworthy brands and give you detailed instructions on how to wear and care for your lenses.

It's important to never share your lenses with another person and always follow the specific instructions on how to disinfect your contacts. Be cognizant of wear time and check in with your eye doctor immediately if something feels wrong.

When it comes to enhancing your costume, it may be better to pass on the costume contact lens craze altogether. With potential infections, blurred vision and even blindness to consider, make sure you see the risks clearly.

Dr. S. Akbar Hasan is a board-certified ophthalmologist that specializes in cornea, LASIK and cataract treatment at Florida Eye Specialists. For more information, visit FloridaEyeSpecialists.com.



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RiverLife Ministries holds 3rd annual youth fishing tournament

By Jim Whitley
Special to the Recorder

RiverLife Ministries hosted its third annual youth fishing tournament at Palm Valley Outdoors on Sept. 30.

Twelve boats and 20 teen anglers (ages 15-17) took to the Intracoastal in search of primarily redfish. Trout, flounder, sheepshead and black drum, however, could also put them on the scoreboard. Some teams chose to fish the early morning low tide while other teams focused on the afternoon flood tide, and some fished both tides.

There were five winning categories: bait, artificial, fly rod, overall and largest fish. The total number of legal-sized fish caught were 22 redfish, 11 trout and four flounder.

The team led by Capt. Matt Chipperfield (Chips Coastal Charters) had an exceptional day with six reds and eight trout. Angler Eric Tomaszewski landed a 25-inch trout and his personal best red (27 inches) on topwater. Beginner angler Alex De Almeida also had a great day catching five of their total 14 fish. De Almeida caught his first Red and his first trout. Needless to say, Chipperfield's team won the overall category and the artificial category bagging three full lure boxes from Strike-Zone Fishing and \$100 toward Ruth's Chris Steak House.

The team led by Capt. James Dumas (Drum Man Charters) also had a great day winning the bait category and just narrowly winning the largest fish category. Anglers Campbell Parker and Andrew Worman caught a total of six red and four flounder, the largest being a 29-inch red caught by Worman. Their winnings included two Penn reels and hats from Strike-Zone and \$50 at Ruth's Chris. Worman won a pair of Costa sunglasses from

Oyster Creek Outfitters for the largest fish.

The Fly Division was easily won by Wes Davis guiding angler Chris Hofacker. They scored with an amazing four reds on fly. (They actually caught six but only four were legal size and counted.) Hofacker had been flyfishing for a couple years but had not caught a red on fly prior to tournament day. He was all smiles. They each won a personalized signed redfish print from artist Vaughn Cochran of Blackfly Outfitters, hats from Oyster Creek and \$50 at Ruth's Chris.

In addition to the winning categories, other notable catches were angler Topher Wolf nabbing his first red on fly rod, guided by Gabe Lefebvre. The event saw its first all-girls teams with dad Perry Bechtle guiding his daughter Elizabeth and Isabella Frase. Also, young Jack Heuschkel and his fishing bud Brett Houston, who won big last year, fished in their own boat and although not on the leaderboard this year, caught two reds and one trout.

Much gratitude was extended to the 12 captains who set aside their day, and at their own expense, took the teens fishing: Capt. Matt Chipperfield, Capt. James Dumas, Wes Davis (Wes Davis Photography), Ryan Curley, Capt. Austin Bacon (Loomis Rods), Nick Way (Blackfly Outfitters), Gabe Lefebvre (Blackfly Outfitters), John Mauriello, Gavin Glover (Oyster Creek Outfitters), Luke Blaser (Oyster Creek Outfitters), and Perry Bechtle.

RiverLife Ministries created this tournament to help teens improve their angling skills and to provide positive role modeling in the Ponte Vedra community in a fun and challenging setting. To keep tabs on future events, check out RiverLife Youth Fishing Tournament on Facebook. Tight lines!



ABOVE: Ponte Vedra High School juniors Alex De Almeida and Eric Tomaszewski proudly display two redfish during the RiverLife Ministries youth fishing tournament at Palm Valley Outdoors on Sept. 30.



LEFT: Nease High School junior Chris Hofacker holds up a fish he caught in the tournament. He and guide Wes Davis won the event's Fly division.

Photos courtesy of Jim Whitley

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Business Weekly

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New ghost removal
business opens up
on First Coast

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Chamber members recognized at annual recognition and awards event

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recognized eight individuals and one company at its signature annual recognition and awards event, “Branded 2018 – Recognizing Business Leaders That Make their Mark,” last Friday, Oct. 19 at Shell Hall at World Golf Hall of Fame.

Mark Nighbor, the vice president of marketing and communications for Advanced Disposal and vice chairman of the Chamber for 2018-2019, was named the Member of the Year. John Dickinson, a managing partner and office head of Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete’s Jacksonville office, received the President’s Award, and Dr. Erika Hamer, the owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, received the Chairman’s Award.

Joshua Hull, the branch vice president of the Nocatee location for VyStar Credit Union, received the Ponte Vedra Ambassador of the Year Award. This award is dedicated to Grace Hayes, the former editor of the Ponte Vedra Recorder. Robin Burchfield, a board member of St. Augustine Youth Services, was named the St. Augustine Ambassador of the Year.

Michael Scine of Scine CPA Advisors received the Public Policy Award for his efforts as chairman of the Chamber’s Public Policy Committee, while the PGA Tour received the EDC Member of the Year – Fred Schroeder Award for its economic impact on the community, especially in light of its construction of its new global headquarters in St. Johns County.

Mary O’Brien, the chief marketing officer of Meridian Waste Acquisitions, LLC, was recognized as the outgoing chairman of the board, while Rob Matthews of Matthews Design Group was recognized as the outgoing EDC chair.

In addition to the awards ceremony, a keynote address was given by Jeff Rosenblum, a leading innovator in digital marketing who has worked with teams that have helped revolutionize market research, publishing, sports broadcasting and interactive advertising. Rosenblum is the co-author of the book, “FRICTION: Passion Brands in the Age of Disruption,” which argues that successful brands do not simply need clever messages or new, shiny technologies, but need a fundamental change in strategy.

For more photos from the event, visit ponteverdarecorder.com.



Mary O'Brien, the outgoing chairman of the board, presents Joshua Hull with the Ponte Vedra Ambassador of the Year Award, which is dedicated to former Recorder editor Grace Hayes, at the Chamber's signature annual recognition and awards Event on Oct. 19 at the World Golf Hall of Fame.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Dr. Erika Hamer, the owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, receives her Chairman's Award from O'Brien.



Ryan Hart, tournament director of THE PLAYERS (center), receives the EDC Member of the Year – Fred Schroeder Award on behalf of the PGA Tour from O'Brien (left) and Rob Matthews.



O'Brien is recognized as the outgoing chairman of the board by St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Isabelle Renault.

Joint Chamber luncheon features talk by R.J. Larizza

State Attorney R.J. Larizza of the 7th Judicial Court discussed how his office works to impact the business community at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Oct. 10 at Sawgrass Beach Club in Ponte Vedra Beach. Jointly hosted by the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the Beaches Division of the JAX Chamber, the event was sold out and sponsored by Fields Auto Group.



Laura Morey and Pixie Larizza



Jessie Norman and Alyssa Sharp



ABOVE: Toni Boudreaux, R.J. Larizza and Kathy Sutton gather at a luncheon on Oct. 10 at Sawgrass Beach Club that was hosted by the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the Beaches Division of the JAX Chamber.



LEFT: Dr. Erika Hamer, Ken Smith and Felicia Cox

Photos by Susan Griffin



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Aqua Grill to support Kate Amato Foundation with upcoming events

Aqua Grill owner Cary Hart has announced that the restaurant will be continuing the relationship it established last year with the Kate Amato Foundation.

The Kate Amato Foundation is a public charity founded by the parents and friends of Kate Amato, who died in 2016 at age 11 from rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare and aggressive form of pediatric cancer. Recently, the Foundation announced the distribution of \$100,000 in research grants to three entities focused on specific aspects of childhood cancers.

“Establishing this relationship with Lisa and Jeff Amato and supporting their efforts to build the Kate Amato Foundation into something that makes a real impact on pediatric cancer research has been rewarding for all of us at the Aqua Grill, and we’re delighted to continue this effort to help grow the Foundation,” Hart said in making the announcement. “The passion Lisa and Jeff have for the cause and the success they have had in just one year have been inspirational, and we’re excited to move forward with them into the second year. I am particularly encouraged by the contributions of so many of our patrons, who have not only come to understand the enormous need for research funding for all forms of pediatric cancer, but have been moved enough by Kate Amato’s story to step up and support the Foundation.”

Throughout Thanksgiving weekend there will be a fundraising effort within the restaurant, enabling customers to participate in the effort. Additionally, the Aqua Grill will host a \$250 per plate wine dinner on Sunday, Nov. 25, with all proceeds going to the Foundation.

“We have some great ideas on how to build on what we did last year, adding some great auction items to an incredible menu and wine selection for the evening,” Hart said.

Finally, the restaurant will also participate in The Kate Klassic, a fundraising



ABOVE: Alan Henderson, Lori Henderson, Lisa Amato, Nikki Kimbleton and Cary Hart gather at a wine dinner in support of the Kate Amato Foundation at Aqua Grill in 2017.



LEFT: Jeff and Lisa Amato address attendees of a wine dinner held at Aqua Grill in 2017.

Photos provided by Cary Hart

golf tournament the following day, Nov. 26, at Marsh Landing Country Club.

“The tournament will have a lot of new features this year that will add to the uniqueness and enjoyment of the event,” Hart said.

The relationship with Aqua Grill has been vital to the early success of the Foundation, according to Lisa Amato.

“Jeff and I are committed to building the Foundation nationally, but nothing is

more important than establishing it here in our own community, and we are so grateful to Cary Hart and the great Aqua Grill team for playing such a big role in that,” she said. “They have so much empathy for the cause, and for the belief that every child has the right to a full and happy life.”

Those seeking additional information about the dinner may contact The Kate Amato Foundation at (904) 629-8300.

An update on reverse mortgages



By Ric Schilling

Rick Schilling
Columnist

Over the years, I have written several columns on the subject of reverse mortgages, both to hopefully enlighten people to their purpose and to dispel some incorrect percep-

tions. With all of the commercials that seem to be airing constantly, I thought it might be time for an update on the subject.

Basically, a reverse mortgage works like a conventional mortgage but in reverse. You are approved for a mortgage amount and may borrow that in a lump sum, as a line of credit to be drawn as needed, in monthly payments for a specified period or monthly payments for life. Interest is charged on the outstanding balance (not the amount approved but the amount you’ve received) and accumulated until either you sell the home, or the last borrower leaves the home, at which time the amount borrowed plus all accumulated interest must be repaid. If the house sells for more than the amount due, the owners or heirs keep the difference. If the house sells for less than the amount due, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) pays the difference, not the owners or heirs.

There are two changes that have been made recently to protect the financial integrity of the program and the secondary lender — the FHA. First, the amount you can borrow has been reduced such that a person or couple age 62 (all owners have to be at least 62 to get a reverse mortgage) can borrow 42 percent of the appraised value of the home with that percentage gradually increasing with age. Second, borrowers now must show proof (financial statements, tax returns) of their ability to pay homeowners insurance premiums, property taxes and routine maintenance expenses, all of which are required by the lender. This reduces the likelihood of a default that would cost the FHA money as the secondary lender.

Unfortunately, more people than ever are entering retirement with conventional house debt. The days of burning the mortgage (i.e. paying it off) before retiring are becoming less than common, which means that more

TITANIUM YOGA HOSTS CHAMBER ‘BEFORE HOURS’

Ashley Hanna, the owner of Titanium Yoga, and Toni Boudreaux, the director of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, gather at a Chamber “Before Hours” event held at Titanium Yoga on Oct. 3. Attendees of the event enjoyed networking and a little breakfast before work, while also learning about Titanium Yoga, which opened at 111 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach in May 2018.

Photo by Susan Griffin



SCHILLING continues on Page 54

North Avenue Capital closes 2 real estate deals, strengthens rural communities

North Avenue Capital, a specialized commercial lender based in Ponte Vedra, has announced the closing of two commercial real estate transactions funded with USDA Rural Development Business & Industry loans and totaling \$16.8 million.

In Waycross, Georgia, \$7.3 million was secured for the acquisition of a 51,548-square-foot, multi-tenant commercial center anchored by Enhanced Resource Corporation. In Paragould, Arkansas, a \$9.5 million loan was secured to purchase a 579,015-square-foot, single-tenant industrial facility occupied by LA Darling, which has leased the facility for

over 50 years and is owned by a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway.

“Each of these properties is centrally located in its respective community, providing meaningful economic support to skilled workers choosing to live outside of large cities,” North Avenue Capital President Eric Johnson said, adding that the tenants are making the strategic decision to keep well-paying, long-term jobs for Americans living in rural areas.

Enhanced Resource Corporation, the largest tenant in Waycross, is an international provider of customer management, business process outsourcing and

accounts receivable management services to Fortune 500 companies. Since moving into the space in 2009, the company has invested over \$1.5 million to build out its 340-agent capacity, indicative of its long-term commitment to Waycross. Other tenants include Surchero’s Fresh Grill, AppleCare, Bone & Joint Institute and Southeastern Credit Union.

The property in Paragould sits on more than 30 acres and was originally constructed in 1966, with renovations completed in 1990. The single tenant, LA Darling, generates annual revenues of \$384 million by producing wood and

metal store fixtures and point-of-purchase displays for larger retailers, including Walmart and Best Buy. Johnson emphasized that these long-term loans provide an affordable level of stability that provides an incentive for companies to keep higher paying jobs in rural communities.

North Avenue Capital CEO Ben Chattraw added, “The Waycross and Paragould projects are great examples of how the USDA is working alongside lenders and business owners to revitalize and reinforce the presence of commercial and professional operations in rural parts of the country.”

Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort honored at International Property Awards

Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort has received a prestigious recognition by the USA Property Awards as the winner in the “New Hotel Construction & Design – Florida” category.

Developed by Miami-based Key International, the Embassy Suites St. Augustine Beach will be the only luxury resort on the city’s shore, and one of only five beachfront properties with a resort designation under the Embassy Suites by Hilton flag.

The International Property Awards are open to residential and commercial property professionals from around the globe. Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach’s honor follows a detailed judging process by an independent panel of 80 industry experts, chaired by the House of Lords in the U.K. Parliament, that focuses on design, quality, service, innovation, originality and commitment to sustainability.

“It’s an honor for Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach to be recognized on a national and international stage,” Key International co-president Diego Ardid said. “This resort is representative of positive, new growth in the area, and we are pleased to have worked closely with industry leaders on the design, build, and management of this property.”

Encompassing a 6.5-acre enclave, the property is designed by PFVS Architecture, pairing the charm of a Mediterranean villa with the elegance and amenities of a beachfront resort. Evoking a sense of coastal modern-



Renderings display the exterior of the Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort, which is set to open this fall.

Photos courtesy of ANDER&CO public relations + digital strategy

ism by drawing on elements from the oceanfront setting, J. Banks Design curated the interiors of each king, studio king, two-bedroom and queen-queen suite, as well as the leisure, retail, event and dining common areas.

Expected to open this fall, Embassy Suites St. Augustine Beach will provide a plethora of on-site activities from surf lessons and paddle boarding to multiple dining experiences, an intimate outdoor dedicated wedding lawn, an expertly-designed indoor ball room and more. The resort will also house a full-service Starbucks franchise.

Shawn Gracey, executive vice president of Hospitality for Key International, accepted the award during an official ceremony on Sept. 20.

“We are proud to celebrate the commemoration of Embassy Suites St. Augustine Beach and its spectacular oceanfront locale alongside leading international destinations and resorts,” Gracey said.

For more information, visit www.embassysuites.com or newsroom.hilton.com/embassysuites. For more information on Key International, visit www.key-international.com.

Compass Self Storage welcomes U-Haul products to its lot

U-Haul Company of Florida recently announced that Compass Self Storage LLC has signed on as a U-Haul® neighborhood dealer to serve the Ponte Vedra community.

Located at 1120 Preservation Trail in Ponte Vedra Beach, Compass Self Storage will offer U-Haul trucks, moving supplies and in-store pick-up for boxes.

According to U-Haul, Compass Self Storage is a great place to become U-Haul Famous®. Take your picture in front of a U-Haul product, send it in and your face could land on the side of a U-Haul truck. Upload your photo through Instagram using #uhaulfamous, or go to www.uhaulfamous.com to submit photos and learn more.

Normal business hours at Compass Self Storage are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday. Reserve U-Haul products at this dealer location by calling (904) 567-8066 or visiting www.uhaul.com/Locations/Truck-Rentals-near-Ponte-Vedra-FL-32081/053009/ today.



Photo courtesy of U-Haul

Compass Self Storage in Ponte Vedra Beach is now offering U-Haul trucks, moving supplies and in-store pick-up boxes.

Ghostly business moves to area in time for Halloween

Healing Haunted Houses, a ghost removal service, has moved to the First Coast in time for the Halloween season.

Business owner Lisa Evans, a St. Augustine resident, facilitates the removal of earthbound spirits and other negative energies from people, their homes and businesses. The company launched in 2007 as a response to an increasing request for the removal of disruptive ghosts and other unwanted energies from homes and properties due to noises, ghostly appearances, unexplained phenomena or a feeling of unsettledness.

"I continue to be amazed by how many people have had a haunting or other unearthly experience," Evans said. "I am honored to bring this service to those who are fearful and in desperate need of help."

Jackie Ronco, owner of a metaphysical shop in St. Augustine called The Purple Lotus, noted that her business has been haunted by supernatural beings.

"My business is housed in a building that dates back to the early 1900s," Ronco said. "It was being haunted by multiple ghosts, one or two of which would make their presence known on a daily basis. Besides seeing shadows constantly throughout the day and hearing conversations between multiple spirits, the doors would slam, and the



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

lights would flicker while I was talking to customers. It was not uncommon to walk in in the morning and find merchandise all over the floor. I did not realize the impact the spirits were having on my business until after Lisa did the clearing."

Evans transitioned into this line of work after a 30-year career in the corporate world, she said.

"I discovered energy clearing out of my own personal need for healing," Evans added. "I began clearing the energy field of people, then this evolved into clearing the energy of homes and businesses."

Identifying and clearing energies can be conducted at any location in the world. Consequently, Evans has clients from as far away as Australia, India and the United Kingdom.

Although the services of Healing Haunted Houses benefit the living, Evans said they also benefit the earthbound spirits that are removed.

"We believe that the removal of earthbound spirits is important whether the spirits are friendly or causing problems," she noted. "Earthbound spirits that take up occupancy in a building are believed to be the spirits of people like you and me, who for whatever reason, have not crossed over and are now trapped on this plane of existence."

Evans freely admitted that her job at Healing Haunted Houses is unique and may not be for most people.

"I consider myself just a normal person with a unique job," she revealed.

Anyone dealing with a ghost in the house can contact Healing Haunted Houses by visiting www.healinghauntedhouses.com for a free evaluation.

Schilling

Continued from 52

people are having to make mortgage payments well into retirement. Many of those in this situation didn't anticipate being in this position and running the risk

of exhausting their retirement funds too soon because of this. One solution is to use the proceeds from a reverse mortgage to pay off a conventional mortgage, thus eliminating the need to make monthly payments. While this may impact the degree to which your heirs/children inherit the house, it is a much better scenario

than asking your children to support you later in life because you ran out of money.

Reverse mortgages can be helpful, but they are a lifelong debt so explore them carefully before making a commitment. Reverse mortgages are not for everyone. There may very well be much better, more suitable solutions for you to consider before going this route. On the other hand, it could be a good solution for your situation. Do your homework. Proceed with caution and know what you are getting into. As with any financial decision, have the facts straight and make sure that your decision is best for your particular situation. It's not a one-size-fits-all type decision.

Frederic "Ric" Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, FL. Ric is President of

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

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REVIEW

Alhambra's '1776' a timely call for unity despite political differences

By Samantha Logue

“If we do not hang together, we shall most assuredly hang separately.”

Although a joke, that quote — usually attributed to Benjamin Franklin — conveys a message that unfortunately many contemporary Americans seem to have forgotten, with Election Day just around the corner and political tensions running high. But at a time when some public figures are calling for an increase in incivility toward those with opposing views, the hit Broadway musical “1776,” now playing at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining, serves as a timely reminder that the country has not only faced, but overcome such deep divisions before.

With book by Peter Stone and music by Sherman Edwards, “1776” brings the history books to life by recounting the uphill battle faced by America’s founding fathers in declaring independence from Great Britain. Set in the summer of 1776, the show centers on John Adams, who, together with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, must find a way to beat the unfathomable odds and convince the other members of the Second Continental Congress that separation from the British Empire is in their best interest.

For those familiar with the political climate in America today, the constant bickering and backbiting of the opposing factions in the show will seem only too familiar. For instance, while “obnoxious and disliked” Adams (Kevin Anderson) relentlessly pushes for independence, he repeatedly spars with John Dickinson of Pennsylvania (Alexander Molina), who contends that reconciliation with Great Britain would be a more prudent course of action. But even with all the anger and bitterness that is expressed in their exchanges, when the final decision to declare independence is made, the two retain their respect for one another as fellow countrymen who simply want what is best for their homeland, proving that it is in fact possible to agree to disagree.

As Adams, Tony Award-nominated Anderson is the perfect embodiment of the American spirit. An experienced stage, TV and film actor, his portrayal of Adams’ passionate and steadfast pursuit of freedom is authentic and will leave audience members overflowing with patriotic pride. Also worthy of note was Mark



The “Cool, Cool Considerate Men” of the Second Continental Congress gather for a dance during a performance of “1776” at Alhambra.



The hit Broadway musical “1776” is now playing at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining and will run through Nov. 18.



Tony Award-nominated stage, TV and film actor Kevin Anderson portrays the lead role of John Adams in the Alhambra Theatre & Dining’s production of “1776.”

Poppleton’s able performance of the witty and wise Benjamin Franklin, as well as Andrew LeJeune’s chilling rendition of “Molasses to Rum” in the role of Edward

Rutledge of South Carolina. Running through Nov. 18, the Alhambra’s production of “1776” is a refreshing reminder of what unites us all as Ameri-

cans: our freedom. Take a night to celebrate the “land of the free” by seeing this exceptional display of American exceptionalism while you can.

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'The Daily Show' host Trevor Noah coming to St. Augustine Amphitheatre March 16, 2019

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will present comedian and host of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" Trevor Noah on Saturday, March 16, 2019. Tickets for Trevor Noah "Loud & Clear Tour" are now on sale.

This past year, "The Daily Show" was nominated for a Writers Guild Award (Comedy/Variety Series) and a GLAAD award for Outstanding Talk Episode, as well as two NAACP Image Awards for Outstanding Talk Series and Outstanding Host in a Talk or News/Information Show. Noah also recently won Best Host at the 2017 MTV Movie & TV Awards, as well as a Creative Arts Emmy Award for Outstanding Short Form Variety Series for his hosting role on "The Daily Show – Between the Scenes." He joined "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" in 2014 as a contributor.

In February 2017, Noah debuted his ninth comedy special "Afraid of the Dark" on Netflix. The special was shot before a packed house in New York City at the Beacon Theatre. In 2016, Noah debuted his one-hour stand-up special, "Trevor Noah: Lost in Translation" on Comedy Central. His Showtime comedy special, "Trevor Noah: African American" premiered in 2013. He was nominated for "Personality of the Year" at the 2014 and 2015 MTV Africa Music Awards and won the award in 2015.

Born in South Africa to a black South African mother and a white European father, Noah has hosted numerous television shows including South Africa's music, television and film awards, and two



Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Amphitheatre
Comedian and "The Daily Show" host Trevor Noah will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on March 16, 2019.

seasons of his own late-night talk show, "Tonight with Trevor Noah." In November 2016, Trevor released his first book "Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood," which was a New York Times bestseller. Noah's untitled follow-up was published by Random House and Audible Studios on Oct. 23 and picks up where "Born a Crime" ends.

Tickets for Trevor Noah "Loud & Clear Tour" are on sale at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Offices. Tickets are also available via ticketmaster.com or by phone at 800-745-3000. Ticket process range from \$44 to \$99.50.

For more, visit www.staugamphitheatre.com or www.trevornoah.com.

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No. 9 FLORIDA No. 7 GEORGIA

When: 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27 • **Where:** TIAA Bank Field, Jacksonville • **TV:** CBS • **Records:** Both teams are 6-1 (4-1 in the SEC)

Locals offer their predictions on the rivalry game

By Benjamin Naim

With the annual game between the Florida Gators and Georgia Bulldogs coming up, the Recorder took to the streets to see what locals are thinking and who they believe will win the rivalry, which is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 27 at 3:30 p.m. at TIAA Bank Field in Jacksonville.

Suzanne Bearry, a Florida fan and Ponte Vedra resident, predicted that the Gators will walk away with the big “W.”

“They’re having a great season and I think they’re going to push forward,” said Bearry, whose favorite part of the game is that it brings everyone together.

Donald McKay, a Jacksonville resident who is neither a Florida or Georgia fan, said he thinks the Gators will upset the Bulldogs this year.

“I think Georgia has more talent,” he noted, “but I think Florida with

the new coach might be excited and I think they take it this year.”

McKay said the game itself is a tradition, and the part he enjoys the most is that it unifies the community and brings in revenue for the city.

Doug Ingram, a Ponte Vedra resident who is also not a fan of either team, said he thinks Georgia will win the big game by a score of 24-17. His favorite part of the event, he added, is the football game itself.

Anita Kelly, a Gators fan and Ponte Vedra resident, said she thinks the University of Florida will win by a touchdown.

“I like the Gators,” she said, “but the dogs bring a good fight.”

When it comes to her favorite aspect of the game, Kelly said she enjoys the kickoff because “all the craziness starts then.”

“I watched the news this morning,” she said, “I watched all the RVs rolling in. I think it’s a great thing Jacksonville puts on.”



SUZANNE BEARRY, (Pick: Florida)



DONALD MCKAY, (Pick: Florida)



DOUG INGRAM, (Pick: Georgia)



ANITA KELLY, (Pick: Florida)

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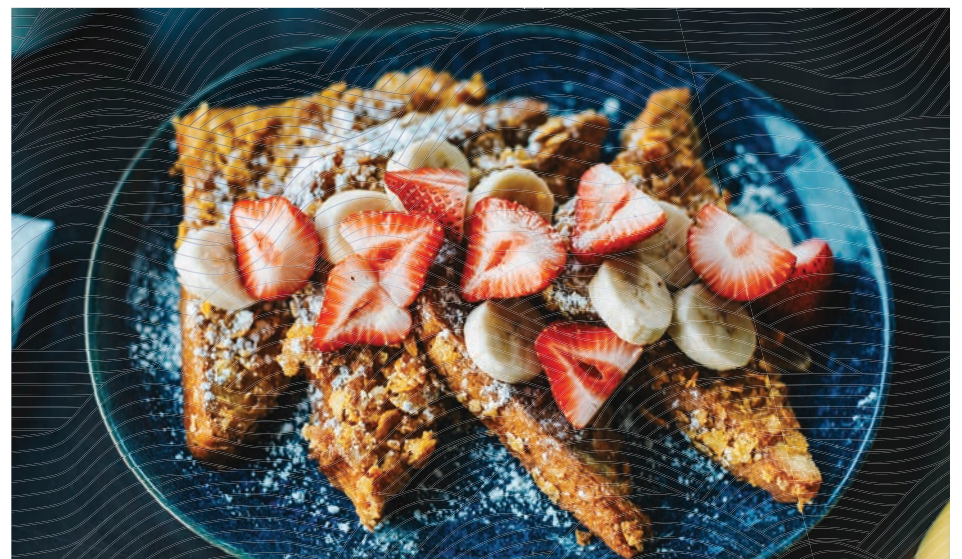
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Sports

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Sharks lose big to Trinity Christian

By Jerry Norton

The Ponte Vedra Sharks found themselves completely out of their league last Friday night at home, losing 35-7 to the Conquerors of Trinity Christian (TC). If not for three turnovers and a few major penalties by the visitors, the final score might have been far worse.

Ponte Vedra started well when Caden Fordham fielded the opening kickoff for the Sharks and returned it 60 yards to the Trinity 30-yard line. But facing a fourth down at the TC 23-yard line, a fumbled snap ruined Ponte Vedra's field goal attempt.

Trinity then scored back-to-back touchdowns. The first took just three plays and covered 63 yards; the second covered 64 yards in six plays.

Ponte Vedra's best chance for a first-half touchdown came when Cobi Myers connected with Nick Pirris for 12 yards and Kyle Barker for 10 more and a first down at the TC 9-yard line. An interception on the next play spoiled what might have been the Sharks' best drive of the evening.

The Conquerors appeared to be heading for a third consecutive score when Fordham stepped in front of an errant pass. The Sharks couldn't take advantage of the big pick, however, and punted the ball away three plays later. Fordham was a bright spot for Ponte Vedra all night and not just on defense. He gained 108 yards gained on a pair of kickoffs.

Tommy Zitiello matched Fordham's interception with one of his own to give Ponte Vedra a first down inside the TC red zone. The Sharks settled for a field goal

attempt only to see it blocked. Aiden Dunnigan recovered a Trinity fumble on the next series but again Ponte Vedra turned the ball over on downs.

The first half ended with Ponte Vedra down just 14-0 and hoping to get back in the game. After the Sharks kicked off to start the second half and forced Trinity into a three-and-out, feelings on the Ponte Vedra sidelines were high. Bad news came when the Sharks were forced to punt after three plays of their own. Ponte Vedra's punt was blocked and TC converted the turnover into a touchdown and a 21-0 lead.

The Sharks were plagued by yet another turnover, this on another interception. But the visitors weren't able to capitalize.

The third quarter ended with TC up 21-0. That didn't last long. Two minutes into the fourth quarter, the Conquerors scored again, capping a 10-play drive for a 28-0 advantage.

The Sharks then kept control of the football for 13 plays, moving from their own 25-yard line to the TC 25-yard line but failed to convert a critical fourth down. TC used its next possession effectively and efficiently. A quick first down out to the left sideline wasn't covered by the Sharks and the result was a 74-yard Trinity touchdown.

With a running clock in force, Ponte Vedra had just enough time to avoid the shutout. Logan Conway's 13-yard touchdown catch came on the game's final play.

Ponte Vedra next hosts the Bolles School in a conference game on Friday at 7 p.m.

Reese Russi catches a pass for the Sharks in front of the Trinity defender during last Friday's game.

Photos by Jerry Norton



Ponte Vedra's Aiden Dunnigan recovers a Trinity fumble.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

This week's Athlete of the Week segment features Jacob Allsup, a Nease High School football player who made two game-saving tackles to clinch a big 14-13 win over St. Augustine last Friday, Oct. 19.

What recent accomplishment are you most proud of?

Beating St. Aug. That was a crazy game. We have a three-way tie in the district now; we haven't beaten St. Aug. Last time was my freshman year and that game was crazy too. Being on a team that has beat them is a huge accomplishment.

Was the St. Augustine game the most memorable you've ever played?

Yes. It was just such a back-and-forth game. There were so many big plays that all my teammates and I made that allowed us to win that game and there's a lot of things that went our way, too. I just feel like it was destiny for us to win that game.

What do you do off the field to get better?

I wake up in the morning, go to lift,



Jacob Allsup
Football, Nease High School

make sure I'm eating the right diet, eating a lot of protein, eating a lot of carbs, trying to gain as much weight as possible. I'm always lifting and working on my agility. Another aspect that people don't really focus on is the mental side of football. I spend a lot of time watching film. The majority of my time is spent lifting, watching film or at practice.

To watch the full interview, visit www.PonteVedraRecorder.com.

Lady Sharks take home district, regional golf titles

The Ponte Vedra High Lady Sharks golf team has been chewing up the competition as of late, recently taking home both the district and regional championship titles.

Having lost at last year's regional championship to Nease, Ponte Vedra Coach Clint Finlay said his team's recent District 6-2A win, finishing 15 strokes ahead of their rival with a score of 324, was especially satisfying.

"Anytime you get a victory in postseason it's a good thing, but to come out and play so well as a team at Districts was special," Finlay said. "We didn't have the strongest regular season, but our focus has always been October, so playing the way we did at the District event and knowing we can still go lower means a lot."

The team's victory was helped by Reni Jancsik, who shot a 1-over 73 to claim individual medalist honors.

"Reni has been our clear No. 1 all year," Finlay said. "Her biggest improvement has been her length. She always hit the ball very straight, but she's added some distance to each of her clubs, which makes every course play a bit easier.

It was going to be tough for anyone to replace Sophie Membrino, as she was our top player for two straight years, but thus far Reni has done an outstanding job of giving us that low score you must have at the top."



Photo courtesy of Clint Finlay

Ponte Vedra girls golf coach Clint Finlay (left) and team members Ashlan Tresca, Jordan Barnett, Megan Burke, Ashley Burke, Reni Jancsik, Kayleigh Baker pose with the trophy after winning the district title last week.

At Monday's regional championship at Blue Sky Golf Club, the Lady Sharks also dominated, finishing with a combined score of 305 and walking away with a 10-shot victory over runner-up Fernandina Beach.

Finlay, following the win, noted that his

team still has room for improvement in putting, but added that he was nonetheless pleased with their accomplishments.

"Overall, I couldn't be more proud of my girls," he said. "It was truly a team effort with great scores, top to bottom. They deserved the win today and are ready for

the challenge of the state tournament next week."

The Ponte Vedra boys golf team also won the District 6-2A title. The Sharks, who won the Class 2A state championship last year, beat runner-up Nease by 23 shots.



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THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K hits \$500,000 raised for The DONNA Foundation

Registration for 2019 race now open

Last week, Damon Olinto, THE PLAYERS 2018 tournament chairman, and Donna Deegan, founder of The DONNA Foundation, announced that THE PLAYERS Donna 5K series has generated \$500,000 for The DONNA Foundation since the race's inception in 2009.

"It is impossible to adequately measure the impact THE PLAYERS has had on The DONNA Foundation," said Donna Deegan, whose foundation provides financial assistance and support to families living with breast cancer and also funds groundbreaking research at Mayo Clinic. "The \$500,000 that's been raised has helped to ensure families aren't swallowed up by the financial burdens they often face with a breast cancer diagnosis. Add that to

the power of THE PLAYERS brand, and they've really helped to put our efforts on the map."

THE PLAYERS will continue to work with The DONNA Foundation, with the 2019 race set to take place on Saturday, March 2 — just two weeks before the next champion of THE PLAYERS will be crowned — to an expected, at-capacity field of 1,750 runners. Runners and walkers of all levels will enjoy a 5K route through the back nine of THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. Additionally, new in 2019, THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K has been re-routed to start and finish by the Davis Love III Tournament Entry located near the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse.

"We are so excited to once again host THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K at TPC Sawgrass," THE PLAYERS 2019 Tournament Chairman Adam Campbell



Photo courtesy of THE PLAYERS Championship

Donna Deegan, founder of The DONNA Foundation, and THE PLAYERS staff celebrate THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K charitable milestone of \$500,000 raised since the race's inception in 2009.

said. "This race gives the community a sneak-peek and behind-the-scenes look at the tournament course and other key fan activations while helping raise funds for breast cancer research. It's a win-win for everyone involved."

Registration is now open for the race, which will start at 8:30 a.m. Participants will receive a T-shirt, race medal and a Wednesday Stadium Pass to THE PLAYERS. Visit www.theplayersdonna5k.com to register and for more information.

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THEME: WAR MOVIES

ACROSS

- Guns N' Roses guitarist
- Pep rally syllable
- Third H in 4-H, sing.
- Conversation starter
- Victorian period, e.g.
- Dugout glider
- Nun's attire
- Winter condition
- Mad hatter's act
- *1970 biopic, winner of 7 Academy Awards
- *Story of 1940 evacuation
- Station wagon/off-road vehicle, acr.
- Aware of
- Busy airport
- *"...How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the ____"
- Julian Barnes' "The Sense of an ____"
- Double reed woodwind
- Cleanse
- Rope-making plant fiber
- Traditional learning method
- Willow twig
- Choir voice
- Sacred, in Italian
- *"____ and hearty"
- *Kurosawa's "Ran" based on this Shakespearean king
- Ethanol, a.k.a. ____ alcohol, pl.
- Russian autocrat
- Stallone's nickname
- Penny-farthing, e.g.
- Variable, abbr.
- *"All Quiet on the ____ Front"
- *Kelly's who?
- Binary digits code
- Lamb's momma
- Master of ceremonies
- Sudden growth
- Canal locale
- Unbroken
- Jekyll's counterpart
- Heavy-duty cleanser
- You shall, contraction

DOWN

- "Be quiet!"
- Lambeau Field jump
- "Fantastic Four" actress
- Buttonholes, e.g.
- Small pool
- Bit attachment
- ____ de Triomphe
- Father of the String Quartet
- Baseball's Hammerin' ____
- Those against
- Kind of film
12. 52 cards
- Rules
- Convex molding
- Beehive State native
- Render unnecessary

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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.

- Joey was a "War ____"
- *"U-571" vessel
- Mess up
- *It lead to a popular wartime comedy series
- Call, in the olden days
- Keys
- Birth-related
- *Story of first African-American regiment
- Inspiring fear
- Aquatic snakes
- Ransack or plunder
- Even though
- *____ Richard Attenborough of "The Great Escape"
- Make less dense
- Rest on patellas
- Young Montague
- Done in loads
- ESPN award
- Gulf War missile
- Michelin product
- *From where to eternity?
- Light beige
- *Lone Survivor, e.g.
- Path
- Building extension

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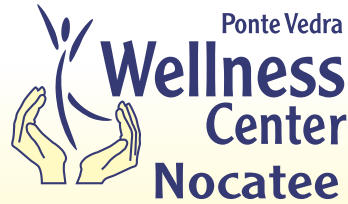
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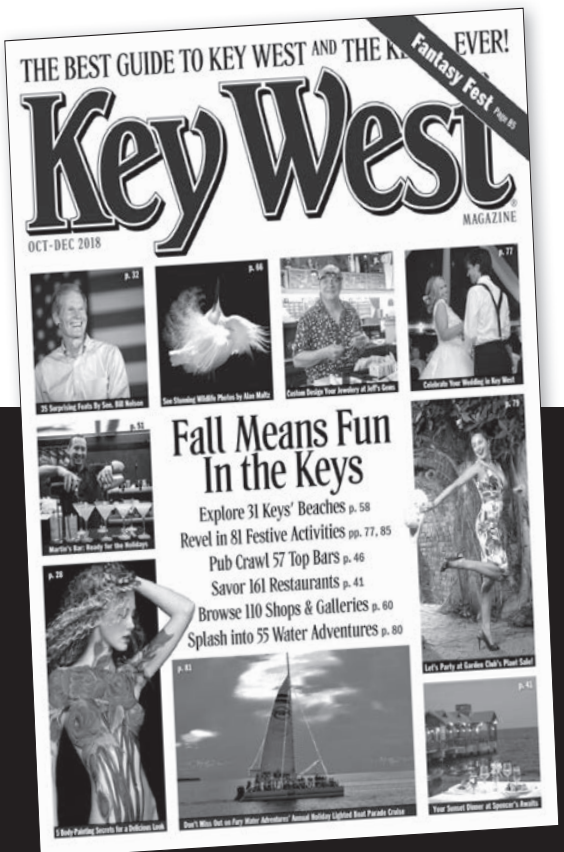
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