

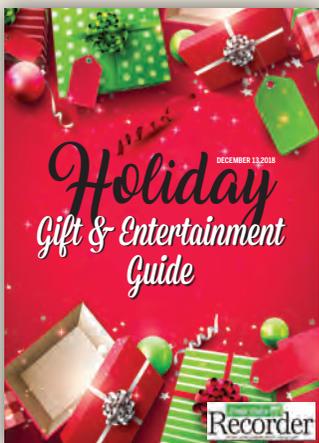
Ponte Vedra Recorder



December 13, 2018
Volume 47, No. 101
75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

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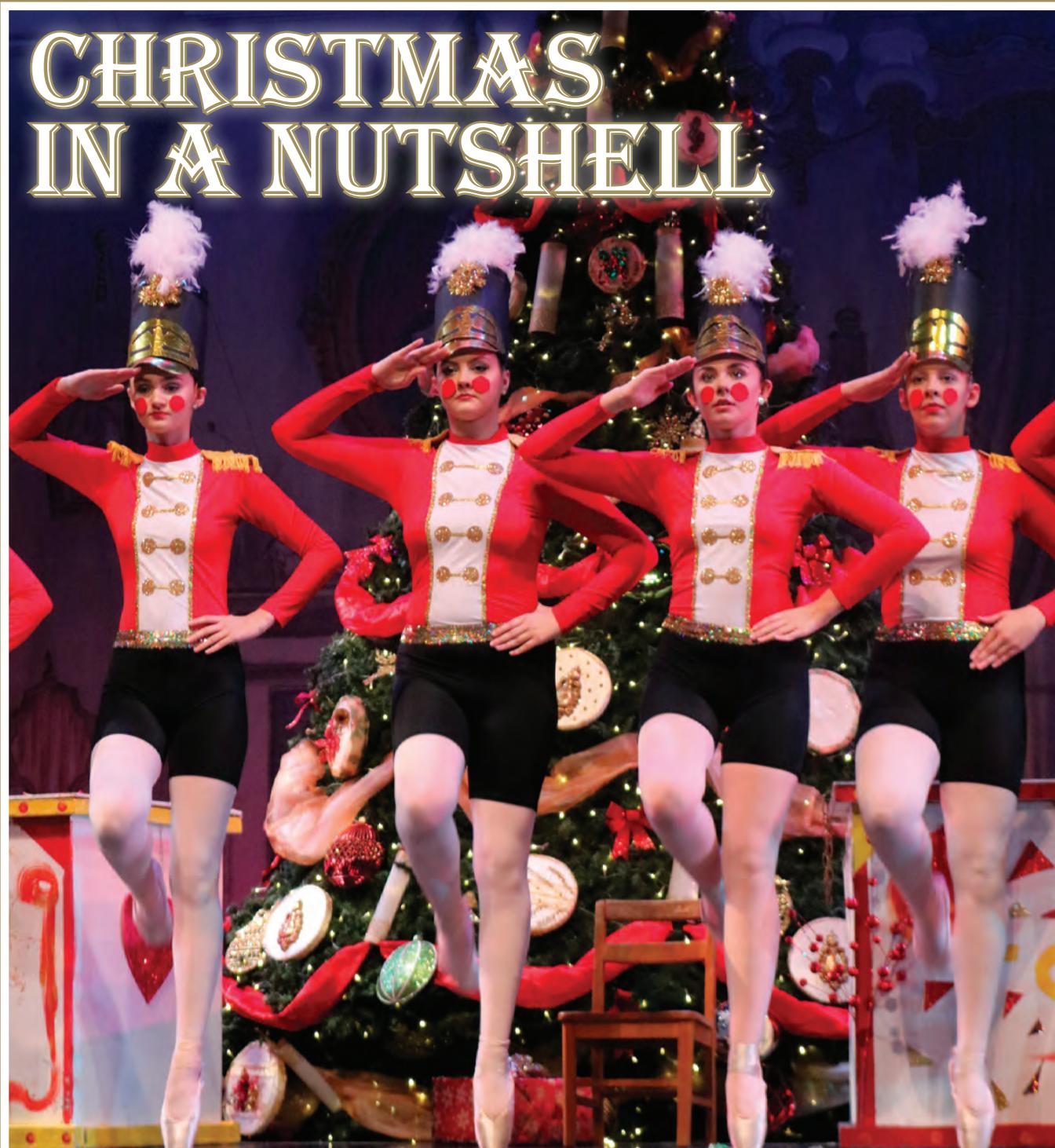
Holiday Gift & Entertainment Guide
(featuring Season of Giving)
PAGES 15-34



Business Weekly
PAGES 35-39



Sports
PAGES 41-44



The Dance Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church presented its 23rd annual production of "The Nutcracker" Dec. 8 at the University of North Florida. Read more on page 21

Photo by Jon Blauvelt

CAR OF THE WEEK

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INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Calendar

Pages 8-9

In the Arts

Page 40

Sports

Pages 41-44



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

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jonb@opcfla.com 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.

No readers correctly identified last week's photo. As a result, we're going to give you all another chance to guess. Good luck!

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Miska is a 7-year-old male declawed cat who was brought to the Pet Center by his owners. Miska is looking for a new home and is good with other household pets. Please be aware that a declawed cat may take additional time to adjust to a new home. Come spend some time with this furry friend today. #48049



DOG OF THE WEEK

Casper is a 3-year-old male dog who is looking for a new home. He was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. As Casper is a stray, there are traits that may be unknown. Come into the Pet Center to visit with Casper today! #42688



Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training, and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions are currently \$15 and are being sponsored by the Friends of the Pet Center! They are usually \$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 in St. Augustine, 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

R	A	S	P	A	S	H	K	N	I	T							
O	D	O	R	D	A	T	A	S	N	I	D	E					
T	A	L	E	I	R	O	N	T	I	N	E	A					
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				T	H	A	N	K	T	N	T						
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7	6	2	4	9	1	8	3	5
8	1	9	2	5	3	4	6	7
5	3	4	8	6	7	9	1	2
1	9	3	6	4	2	5	7	8
2	4	8	3	7	5	6	9	1
6	5	7	9	1	8	2	4	3
3	7	6	5	2	4	1	8	9
4	2	1	7	8	9	3	5	6
9	8	5	1	3	6	7	2	4

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

ZOO LIGHTS

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Dec. 14 - Jan. 5
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Stunning Riverfront Estate
You will instantly feel as though you have been swept away to a chateau in Normandy, France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204 square foot tudor-style home is truly a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining. Designed with the materials and attention to detail expected with this architecture, this **5 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath** home will not disappoint. **\$7,800,000**



Stunning Classic with Beach Access
Marshside, Off Ponte Vedra Blvd
Picturesque home in a charming neighborhood off Ponte Vedra Blvd. Large kitchen with granite countertops and island plumbed for gas. Also features a downstairs master, study & game room. Access available to the Old Ponte Vedra Condos amenities. This home is the perfect backdrop for all of life's memories. **3 bedrooms & 2.5 bathrooms \$649,500**



Renovated Coastal Home
Move-in ready home beautifully renovated in 2017 in established neighborhood with no HOA. Open floor plan features pristine kitchen with granite countertops and new stainless steel appliances. **3 bedrooms, 2 baths \$340,000**



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 \$950,000**

Caring Chefs raises over \$125,000 for Children's Home Society of Florida

The Children's Home Society of Florida's (CHS) 35th Annual Caring Chefs event raised more than \$125,000 to help more children and families realize their full potential.

Nearly 50 restaurants and 1,500 guests gathered Nov. 4 in The Avenues Mall for an evening of food, fun and fundraising. Together, sponsors, restaurants and ticket-holders supported CHS' core solutions in early childhood, behavioral health, child welfare and community solutions, which includes Community Partnership Schools.

The event also included more than 220 corporate and community volunteers.

"Caring Chefs is CHS' main fundraiser with proceeds going directly to help keep more families safe, strong and together," CHS Regional Executive Director Tracy McDade said. "We're tremendously grateful for our community's support in making the event a success for 35 years."

Note: The Ponte Vedra Recorder was one of the sponsors for this event. For a full list of sponsors, visit chscaringchefs.com.

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COLLECTION



ST. JOHNS FOREST
\$369,900

Spacious 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath lakefront home located in prestigious gated neighborhood in St. Johns County! This home has formal living & dining rooms, a spacious family room with hickory finish floors & gas fireplace, gourmet kitchen, 3-car garage, & large covered lanai overlooking fenced yard with private water to preserve views. MLS 969369

John Richardson | 904.465.5110
JohnRichardson@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



VIZCAYA
\$390,000

Elegant Mediterranean-style townhome in secure community. This move-in ready end unit offers a 2-car garage, spacious floor plan, gourmet kitchen, breakfast area, master bedroom downstairs, 2 bedrooms plus bath & 2 loft spaces upstairs, & screened porch overlooking a peaceful lake. MLS 964623

Barbara Maple | 904.571.1764
BarbaraMaple@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



HAMMOCK COVE
\$499,000

Located in the heart of Sawgrass Players Club, this is the perfect house for yearly living or a vacation home. Features hardwood floors, plantation shutters, new carpet in bedrooms, new roof & A/C, living & family room with double-sided fireplace, large Florida room with A/C, & kitchen with stainless steel appliances, new refrigerator, & granite countertops. MLS 969604

Linda Ostoski | 904.473.1515
LindaOstoski@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PALENCIA
\$529,000

Beautiful, luxury end-unit in The Promenade, Palencia's upscale condominium community. This mid-size model features over 2,600 SqFt, fresh paint, an eat-in kitchen, wood flooring in bedrooms, living room, & dining room, new tile flooring in kitchen & hallways, 3 large balconies with French doors, & 2 reserved parking spots. MLS 945107

Cammy & Dick Ray | 904.806.3489
CammyRay@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



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MSD Board swears in new trustees

Al Hollon, Gary Jurenovich, Holly Kartsonis and Mack McCuller gather at the Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board meeting on Dec. 10 after being sworn in as trustees.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt



By Jon Blauvelt

The Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board swore in three new trustees at their meeting on Monday, Dec. 10, at the MSD office on Palm Valley Road.

Al Hollon, Holly Kartsonis and Mack McCuller are the new trustees on the board. Gary Jurenovich, who currently serves as the chairman of the board, was also sworn in for another term after being re-elected to his seat in November.

Hollon previously served two terms as an MSD trustee from 2002 to 2010. For the past six and a half years, he's been a member of the Ponte Vedra Zoning and Adjustment Board. He has lived in Ponte

Vedra with his wife, Laura, for 22 years.

Kartsonis is a resident on Lake Road serving her first term on the MSD Board. McCuller has lived in Ponte Vedra since 1985. He served as a trustee and past chairman of the MSD board from 1998 to 2006. McCuller is an attorney with the law firm of Smith Hulsey and Busey, where his area of practice centers on land use and environmental and administrative law.

This will be Jurenovich's fourth term as an MSD trustee. He has lived in the MSD for 36 years with his wife and son.

The next MSD meeting is Monday, Jan. 14 at the MSD office at 5430 Palm Valley Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information on the MSD, visit www.pvmsd.org/WP/.

Rutherford honors 43 area students nominated to service academies

U.S. Rep. John Rutherford (FL-04) recently announced the nominations of 43 students to be considered for appointments to the United States Air Force Academy, United States Merchant Marine Academy, United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy.

At a recent ceremony at the University of North Florida, Rutherford offered a congratulatory message of encouragement and presented each student with a certificate signifying their achievement. Each student completed a rigorous application process and underwent an interview with a panel of former military officers, who are service academy graduates themselves, before being selected for a nomination.

"One of the greatest privileges I have as representative is working with inspiring young men and women seeking appointments to one of our national service academies," Rutherford said. "These outstanding students are tasked with ensuring America remains the strongest beacon of hope and freedom in the world, and I am confident that those we have nominated possess the leadership, integrity and commitment to represent our country honorably at these prestigious academies. I look forward to supporting these exceptional young leaders as they progress through their careers."

Each year, thousands of students from across the country apply to attend the nation's service academies. Students must undergo a two-step process to receive an appointment to any of the academies. They must apply for a nomination from the president, a congressman or a senator and simultaneously complete the application criteria for admission to the academy. Students who receive both a nomination and are accepted receive an appointment to the institution.

The students receiving nominations are as follows:

United States Air Force Academy

Troy David Barber, Allen D. Nease High School
Ashley Nicole Booth, St. Augustine High School
McAnarney Slater Borngesser, Florida State University
Tatiana Christina Brown, Bartram Trail High School
Joshua Tyler Carson, Creekside High School



Photo Courtesy of Alex Lanfranconi

Students receive nominations from U.S. Rep. John Rutherford to be considered for appointments to the country's service academies.

Christopher Robert Cavaliere, Ponte Vedra High School
Justin Wayne Dean, West Nassau High School
Nickola Pierre Khoury, St. Augustine High School
Konnor Day Matthews, Allen D. Nease High School
Connor Joseph McQuade, The Episcopal School
Sinead Georgeanna Morgan, Allen D. Nease High School
Connor William Murphy, The Episcopal School
Brenden Travis Potter, Creekside High School
Andrew Joseph Relihan, Ponte Vedra High School
Daniel Christopher Simonds, First Coast High School
Chloe Arden Surrency, Duncan Fletcher High School
Christopher Peter Sylvester, Bartram Trail High School
Nailah Trinh Nguyen, Sigonella Middle High School
Ashley Faye Weidenbach, USAF Academy Prep School

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Ryan Christopher Bell, Bishop Kenny High School
James Patrick Dotsikas, Jr., Ponte Vedra High School
Jacob Wynn Follenweider, Bartram Trail High School
Rob Daniel Gray, Fernandina Beach High School
Michael Tyler Morton, Creekside High School
Mason Joshua Ray, Bartram High School
Erin Elizabeth Sass, Allen D. Nease High School
Christopher Peter Sylvester, Bartram High School
Matayo Thomas Trumble, Ponte Vedra High School
Savannah Nichola Wolff, The Episcopal School

United States Military Academy

John David Barksdale, The Episcopal School
McAnarney Slater Borngesser, Florida State University
Tatiana Christina Brown, Bartram Trail High School
Wiley Braxton Gillam, The Bolles School
Aunikah Sade King, USMA Prep School
Sinead Georgeanna Morgan, Allen D. Nease High School
Brandon Chee Ming Mum, Allen D. Nease High School
Nathan Christian Pascual, Fernandina Beach High School
Reilly Madison Tarbet, Ponte Vedra High School
Osteen Dragon Theam, The Bolles School
Faith Virginia Twiggs, Fernandina Beach High School

United States Naval Academy

Ryan Christopher Bell, Bishop Kenny High School
Thomas Albert Chown, Stanton College Prep School
Riley August Dimberg, Ponte Vedra High School
Jesse Harold Gatewood, Embry-Riddle University
Corine Francesca Millis, Naples American High School
Andrew Joseph Relihan, Ponte Vedra High School
Chase Patrick Rivera, The Bolles School
Erin Elizabeth Sass, Allen D. Nease High School
Daniel Christopher Simonds, First Coast High School
Riley Mae Smith, Bishop Ireton High School
Reilly Madison Tarbet, Ponte Vedra High School
Eleanor Evelyn Vandegrift, The Providence School

Fire at Seawalk Hotel destroys homes of Beaches residents

By Amber Lake

A fire at the Seawalk Hotel in Jacksonville Beach on Nov. 29 has displaced more than 50 vulnerable individuals and will result in the rebuilding of the structure, according to hotel owner James Stockton.

The fire was caused by a faulty air-conditioning window unit, said Stockton. According to Jacksonville Beach Fire Marshall Capt. Steve Sciotto, the incident resulted in one minor injury to the hand of the person who tried to put out the fire. It also caused substantial damage in two of the hotel rooms, rendering most of the hotel unlivable until it can be repaired.

Located at 117 1st Ave N., the Seawalk Hotel houses the Beaches Rescue Recovery Mission and is under the auspices of Adventures in God's Creation. The volunteer-run organization provides long-term housing for free or low-cost to the homeless and working poor that cannot secure it for themselves.

"I was one of those people that was just kind of lost," said Shelby Marshall, an eight-month resident of the Beaches Rescue Recovery Mission. "I didn't care about anything except getting high. The (others in the program) welcomed me with open arms. Ever since then, my life has drastically improved."

The Beaches Rescue Recovery Mission also pro-



James Stockton, founder of Adventures in God's Creation and owner of the Seawalk Hotel

vides food, clothing, religious mentorship and jobs for poverty-stricken members of the community.

Stockton, who is the founder of the Mission, is asking the community for help fundraising the cost of rehoming individuals or volunteering to speed the recovery of the hotel.

"We need to bring them home for Christmas," Stockton said. "Prayers right now are for the safety of our people, many of them families with children and pets."

To donate or inquire about volunteering, visit adventuresingodscreation.org or call Stockton at (904) 699-0009.



Photos by Amber Lake

A recent fire at Seawalk Hotel in Jacksonville Beach has displaced more than 50 vulnerable individuals and will result in the rebuilding of the structure.

Local nonprofit uses dollhouses to help children deal with trauma



Photo courtesy of Alison Findlay

Displayed is an example of a dollhouse created for abused children through the nonprofit Building Faith Play Therapy Toys, which was founded by Ponte Vedra Beach native Alison Findlay.

By Paris Moulden

Dollhouses have been a staple of child's play for centuries, but they can also be used by children as an escape from a bad situation, a place to reimagine a normal, happy life or a safe way to share a heartbreaking story.

Ponte Vedra Beach native Alison Findlay created a nonprofit based on the concept. Her charity organization, Building Faith Play Therapy Toys, creates individualized, custom-built dollhouses to help children address and deal with childhood trauma.

Findlay started the nonprofit eight years ago while living in Atlanta and worked with organizations there to provide therapy dollhouses to children. She returned to the Ponte Vedra Beach area last year to help look after her parents, and after dealing with the loss of her mother in September, Findlay was ready to refocus on her passion for helping kids heal through the power of play, now focusing on the First Coast.

"Kids are so damaged that they don't even talk to the therapist," Findlay said. "Either they are too young, or they don't have the vocabulary words to describe it, or they have been threatened and they're terrified. But if you put a dollhouse in front of them with the right characters, they will eventually start to act it out. And the therapist has something tangible to work with."

Findlay's fascination with dollhouses

began when she visited the Smithsonian Institution as a child and saw the Faith Bradford Dollhouse. After returning from the trip, she built her first dollhouse, which she still has today and which provided the inspiration for Building Faith Play Therapy Toys.

"Halfway through your life, you should start looking for the things you were born to do," Findlay said. "I knew there was something I was born to do, and I was trying to figure it out. One day I walked past my old dollhouse in Atlanta, and it was like it just jumped out at me."

Findlay decided to put her dollhouse-making skills to use for a good cause. She spoke with therapists and other organizations and became aware of play therapy as a tool for helping children deal with their trauma. Findlay said getting children to address the trauma while they're still young helps them to recover faster and to understand normal family dynamics.

"Once they get their story out and once they get their anger out, they keep the dollhouse — it's theirs forever — and they'll then start using the family and play the way happy families are supposed to live," she said. "This breaks the cycle because they start to reinforce on their own, through play, the way they want to be, the way happy families are supposed to be."

DOLLHOUSES continues on Page 12

Maria Poole (@PonteVedraTravelGal) is a luxury travel advisor based in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Maria Poole

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I am a Florida native, passionate travel planner and specialist in the art of travel. I have a Bachelor of Arts in fine arts. Even though I am a designer by trade, I am a traveler at heart. When I'm not traveling the globe, I reside in Ponte Vedra Beach with my husband, Mike, and my three wonderful children. I'm a mom, wander-lusting foodie, wine lover, an adventurer, travel advisor and a joyful purveyor of travel.

How did you grow to become so passionate about travel?

From an early age, I knew I was meant to travel the world. My first experience was living abroad in Spain. The sights, the sounds, the food ... I got the travel bug. I've traveled extensively to over 25 countries, bringing back experiences and the knowledge of the destinations to friends and family. I wanted to have a career that brought the two different aspects of my life together; so, I started Maria Poole Travel. To be able to create memories for someone is wonderful.

Where is your favorite place that you've traveled to?

That is a tough question to answer! I've experienced so many amazing places. Italy is always at the top of my list; however, I am addicted to adventure travel and would have to say the Galapagos Islands. I just returned from a spectacular 10-day expedition trip with National Geographic. It was a life-changing journey.

What's your best advice for someone planning an upcoming trip?

Plan as early as you can. It is never too early to plan a trip. As a travel advisor, I creatively help you find where to go and what to do. Just as you might use a financial advisor, an interior designer or a personal shopper, it makes sense to trust your most valuable asset — your time — with an experienced travel advisor. I spend a lot of time on the road, scouting out the best hotels, the best tour guides and the best restaurants. Visit <https://mariapooletravel.com/> for more assistance with your upcoming travel plans.

Which places are most popular to travel to right now?

Where next? That is a big question. Vacation Ideas for 2019 point your compass towards Iceland, Ireland, Scotland, Greece and Croatia.

What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Vedra?

I love the warm, small-town feeling and the beautiful beaches.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I love having a bunch of plane tickets in my pocket; however, when I am home in Ponte Vedra Beach, I love to be with my friends, play tennis, ride bikes with my family and enjoy long walks on the beach with my new puppy, Finn.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

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

OBITUARIES

Jessica 'Jessie' Gwendoline Carnegie

Loving wife and mother, Jessica "Jessie" Gwendoline Carnegie, died in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, on Friday, Nov. 30, 2018.

Born in England on Jan. 23, 1943, she grew up in London and chose not to follow her family to Australia but rather embarked at the age of 18 on an adventure that had her driving in a deux-chevaux from mainland Europe to India and Tibet, and back, before settling in Switzerland.



Jessica Gwendoline Carnegie

In Geneva, she fell in love with Henry Carter Carnegie, setting off on her most defining adventure, which will be remembered for generations to come. Married in 1970, she moved with her husband and daughter, Suzanne, to France to create a loving home for her new family, which welcomed the addition of two sons, Carter and Leslie (each named after their grandfathers).

As a devoted mother and wife, Jessica shared her love of travel, cooking, adventure, literature and passion for life with all who knew her.

Jessica is survived by her husband, Henry; her daughter, Suzanne; her sons, Carter and Leslie; her daughters-in-law, Gwen and Theresa; son-in-law, Matthieu; as well as four grandchildren, all of whom miss her dearly and lovingly celebrate Jessica's spirit.

Please share your memories and condolences at www.oxleyheard.com. *Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors*

Jerry Lee Floyd

Jerry Lee Floyd, a 40-year resident of Ponte Vedra Beach, died peacefully at home with his family by his side on Dec. 5, 2018, at the age of 76. His long battle with Parkinson's due to Agent Orange in Vietnam has ended.



Jerry Lee Floyd

Jerry was a graduate of the University of Tampa and many graduate programs. He was a captain in the Army serving in the 82nd Airborne Division. He was a decorated veteran of Vietnam and a recipient of many medals including the Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal, for heroism and meritorious service.

Jerry was an avid boater, from sailing to power, and loved his golf! His wife, children and family members remember him as a supportive and fun-loving man

who encouraged them to pursue their goals.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 46 years, Michelle Floyd; his mother, Dorothy Lee Floyd; father, Francis Floyd; sister, Laurie Coleman; brothers, Don and Bruce Floyd; six children, Chris L. Floyd, Rhonda Floyd Melton, Allison Floyd Tatum, Kathleen Floyd Morgan, Jack Brantley Floyd and Christopher Rahming Floyd; daughters-in-law, Dede Rahming Floyd and Mary Alice Floyd; sons-in-law, Charles Moran and Tony Tatum; grandchildren, Zachary Tatum, Kadin Floyd, Kristin Floyd and Alex Melton. He will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery with Honors.



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Martha (Marty) G. Crawford

Martha (Marty) G. Crawford, 85, of Jacksonville, died Dec. 6, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Violet DeFreitas

Violet DeFreitas, 92, of Jacksonville, died Dec. 9, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Claire Tucker Ennis

Claire Tucker Ennis, 94, of Jacksonville, died Dec. 7, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Kenneth Lee Gossett

Kenneth Lee Gossett, 81, of Jacksonville Beach, died Dec. 10, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

OBITUARIES continues on Page 12



Grammy award winning vocalist with signature hits "We're All Alone," "The Way You Do the Things You Do," "All Time High" and "(Your Love Has Lifted Me) Higher and Higher."

JANUARY 9, 2019

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Thursday, Dec. 13	Friday, Dec. 14	Saturday, Dec. 15	Sunday, Dec. 16
<p>Art for Tots: How can we get there? This Dec. 13 class will view "Nightfall at the Hangar" by Philip Evergood and discuss how people get from one place to another. In the studio, children will create their own artwork inspired by transportation. Class runs from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and includes ages 24 through 36 months with an adult. Class size is limited. For further information, please email education@cummernuseum.org or call (904)355-0630.</p> <p>Historic Coast Culture's Farm-to-Fork Chef Series Experience an evening with Chef Joshua Smith of Catch 27 for a multicourse dinner made with local produce and paired with spirits and wine on Dec. 13 at Chandler Oaks from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$125. The event is located at 9600 C.R. 13 N. in St. Augustine (904) 808-7330 or visit www.historiccoastculture.com for more information.</p> <p>StoryCorps Listening Party Join StoryCorps and WJCT for an evening of conversation and listening on Dec.13. Learn about the history and special projects of StoryCorps and the MobileBooth from StoryCorps staff. The event will also debut WJCT's new podcast based on stories collected during the MobileBooth's Jacksonville visit. Reception begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be hosted at 100 Festival Park Ave. in Jacksonville. For tickets and more information on the event go to www.eventbrite.com.</p> <p>Christmas at Congaree: A Canine Christmas On Thursday, Dec. 13 from 4 to 9 p.m. come celebrate at Congaree Christmas with local shopping, food, drinks, Frosty Paws, Milkbones, dog friendly "sleigh" rides and holiday cheer. Congaree and Penn is located at 11830 Old Kings Rd. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Saint Augustine Concert Band Holiday Concert The Saint Augustine Concert Band will feature talented musicians playing many beloved Christmas songs and carols on Dec. 14. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. The event runs 7:30 to 9 p.m. For more information go to www.staugband.org.</p> <p>Brightway hosts The Christmas Classic Movie Night in the Park series A three-part movie night series will be held in San Marco this December every Friday night before Christmas. Events will be hosted Dec. 14 for "The Santa Claus" and Dec. 21 for "Elf." Attendees should bring their own seating and blankets. The event is free to the public and attendees can look forward to food trucks and complimentary hot chocolate and popcorn. The event will take place at the Southside United Methodist Church at 3120 Hendricks Ave from 6 to 9 p.m. For additional details, visit the Facebook event page.</p> <p>Christmas at the cabin The community is invited to experience the warmth of the holiday season at the Beaches Museum's 1873 Oesterreicher-McCormick Cabin. Entertainment in the Beaches Museum Chapel begins on Dec. 14 at 5:30 p.m. and will include dancers from The World of Dance studio, pianist Mary Perry, St. Paul's Catholic Church Choir and Highlands Presbyterian Bell Choir. In addition, guests can enjoy eggnog and roast marshmallows amid the period decor that will adorn the Cabin. Beverages and light appetizers will be served. The Beaches Museum & History Park is located at 381 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, visit our www.BeachesMuseum.org.</p> <p>Simon Sebbag trunk show at Carla Shoes & Accessories Carla Shoes & Accessories will host designer Denise Sebbag of Simon Sebbag Jewelry Designs. Visitors can view new jewelry pieces that are handcrafted in their family-owned and operated factory in Israel. This event is on Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 310 Front St. #875 in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Love Me True Rescue Love Me True Rescue, located at 5150 Palm Valley Road #403, will hold adoption events every Saturday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.lovemetruerescue.com. The rescue is also looking for volunteers (18+). Interested suitors can contact Peggy Hatfield at peggyhatfield63@comcast.net.</p> <p>Las Posadas del Viejo San Agustin For over 400 years, the colonial Hispanic Christmas tradition of Las Posadas has been celebrated by processions throughout the New World. This free event on Dec. 15 is a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's search for lodgings (Spanish: "posadas") in Bethlehem on the first Christmas Eve. Hosted by Florida Living History, the procession will form at 6:30 p.m. by the City Gates, near the north end of St. George Street. Attendees will march down St. George Street, stopping at several designated locations to "ask for lodgings," as is traditional. For more information about the event, visit www.floridalivinghistory.org or email info@floridalivinghistory.org.</p> <p>The Grinch open at Slammer & Squire A Superintendent's Revenge golf tournament begins on Saturday, Dec. 15 at noon. This four-person scramble tournament has a shotgun start and tricked-up Slammer & Squire golf course. The cost is \$300 per foursome, which includes golf, a post-round reception, prizes and taxes. Visit www.golfgvg.com for more information and to register your team.</p> <p>Christmas bake sale The Ponte Vedra United Women will be having their seventh annual Christmas bake sale on Dec 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will be located at 76 S. Roscoe at the Ponte Vedra Methodist Church. Assorted cookies and a variety of baked goods will be available. For more information, call Ann Cook at (904) 285-0579.</p> <p>The Nutcracker Ballet The Florida Ballet presents its annual Nutcracker ballet at the UNF Lazzara Performance Hall Dec. 15. The two shows will run at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Visit www.floridaballet.myboxoffice.us for ticket prices and information.</p>	<p>Girl Scout Family Tailgate and Cookie Kickoff Girl Scouts invites Jaguars fans to the Cookie Kickoff Tailgate event on Sunday, Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event includes family fun, entertainment, food trucks, games, Girl Scout cookies and more. Tickets must be purchased prior to the event and are sold online at www.girlscouts-gateway.org/cookiekickoff. The event is located at Metropolitan Park, 1410 Gator Bowl Blvd in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Santa Bunch at TPC Sawgrass Santa and his helpers have made their way here from the North Pole with treats and photo opportunities. The Santa brunch buffet is on Dec. 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Price is \$55 for adults and \$22 for children ages 5 to 11. TPC Sawgrass is located at 110 Championship Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Grab a Beer and Decorate a Cookie Head to Brewz craft beer bar to grab a Stout, Cream Ale or Winter Warmer and decorate a treat to go with it. This event is on Dec. 16 at noon. Sugers cookies will be available for decorating while supplies last. Brewz is located at 1011 Atlantic Blvd in Atlantic Beach.</p> <p>Jagsbys Jazz Brunch Have a Jazz brunch at WJCT Studio before the last Jags home game of the season on Dec. 16. Enjoy live music by Jaguars Jazz featuring Tracy Morris and an eclectic brunch menu curated by Celebrity Chef Cartel. Enjoy the pregame with a mimosa fountain or select your own libations at the cash bar. Brunch is held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 100 Festival Park Ave. in Jacksonville. For ticket information, go to 904tix.com.</p> <p>Beaches Fine Art Series presents Soweto Gospel Choir Beaches Fine Arts Series presents the Soweto Gospel Choir in a tribute to Nelson Mandela on Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. Beautiful abstracts will be on display by featured visual artist, Brook Ramsey. This free event will be held at 416 12th Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>

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Monday, Dec. 17	Tuesday, Dec. 18	Wednesday, Dec. 19	Thursday, Dec. 20
<p>Holy Yoga Join Integrative health coach and certified Holy Yoga instructor Cheryl Olson for a hatha-based yoga practice combined with breathwork and a mindful intention on God's Word on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 9 a.m. This yoga session, which will be held at various locations in Ponte Vedra, promises to nourish the heart, mind, body and soul. For more information on class locations and to register, visit www.transformandradiate.com.</p> <p>St. Johns County Golf Course Master Plan Community Meeting St. Johns County is hosting a community meeting to provide an update regarding the timeline of the proposed St. Johns Golf Club Master Plan and Request for Proposal at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 17 at the St. Johns Golf Club, located at 4900 Cypress Links Blvd. The meeting will allow residents an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback regarding the proposed master plan and request for proposal. For more information, call (904) 209.0322.</p> <p>Gingerbread Extravaganza Visitors can enjoy incredible gingerbread creations built by professionals and amateurs alike. These creations will be on display at the Jacksonville Historical Society's Old St. Andrews Church through Dec. 28. Themes this year encompass Jacksonville's historic landmarks in the holidays. Displays will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at 317 Philip Randolph St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>50th Anniversary of Sweetheart of the Rodeo The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall presents the once-in-a-lifetime gathering of Byrds co-founders Roger McGuinn and Chris Hillman with Marty Stuart and His Fabulous Superlatives in a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Byrds' groundbreaking album, "Sweetheart of the Rodeo." Doors open at 7 p.m. on Dec. 17 at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach. Visit www.pvconcerthall.com for ticket pricing and information.</p>	<p>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Cafe every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Cafe patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully-inspired tapas for sale at the Cafe. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit www.cummermuseum.org. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave.</p> <p>Marineland Monthly Lecture This free lecture series is hosted by the GTM Research Reserve and will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at Marineland Dolphin Adventure on Dec. 18. Lisa Hoopes will talk about whale shark research. Tickets must be purchased online. The lecture is located at 9600 Ocean Shore Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Asleep at the Wheel The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall hosts the return of the country western swing act Asleep at the Wheel on Dec. 18. Gates open at 7 p.m. at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra. Visit www.pvconcerthall.com for ticket pricing and information.</p> <p>Musicians jam session at That Bar at the Arena Top local musicians hold an open jam session every Tuesday night at That Bar at the Arena. Doors open at 7 p.m. Jam Session starts at 9 p.m. This free event is open to the public and musicians are welcome to play, but must bring their own instruments. That Bar at the Arena is located at 234 A Phillip Randolph Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Christmas caroling at Vicar's Landing Families and individuals will meet at Vicar's Landing on Dec. 18 to spread some Christmas cheer. Attendees are asked to gather in the parking lot at 4 p.m. to distribute songbooks and run through a few carols before heading in. This event is hosted by the Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra and open to the public. Vicar's Landing is located at 1000 Vicars Landing Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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>Dementia support group The Dementia Support Group will discuss the topic, "The Many Faces of Dementia." This group is presented by Community Hospice and will be held Dec. 19 at 3 p.m. on the sixth floor of the lounge in Brookdale Assisted Living. To RSVP, call Lisha Harris at (904) 807-6236. Brookdale is located at 4600 Middleton Park Circle E. in Cypress Village of Jacksonville.</p> <p>First Coast Newcomers Club Trivia Monthly trivia will be held on Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. by the First Coast Newcomers Club. The event will be hosted by Greg & Co. There is limited seating, so RSVPs are required. Meet friends in the community every month. For more information, call (904) 829-0643.</p> <p>Venardos Circus This popular American circus with the heart of a Broadway show returns to the St. Augustine Amphitheatre from Dec. 19 to Feb. 27. Tickets range from \$45 to \$15. Visit www.staugamphitheatre.com for dates and show times. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340 A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>EMMA Concert Association presents Holiday Pops Concert & Sing Along Under the direction of Evans Haile, the Gainesville Orchestra returns to Lewis Auditorium with EMMA's Traditional Holiday Pops Concert and Sing-Along. This is a concert for the entire family. The concert takes place at Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College on Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. The Auditorium is located at 14 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>A Grief Support Group A Grief Support Group meets on the third Thursday of every month at St. Paul's Catholic Church. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. The event is in room 102 of the Family Life Center at 578 1st Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach. For information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p>'Aquaman' at IMAX Theater Arthur Curry learns that he is the heir to the underwater kingdom of Atlantis and must step forward to lead his people and to be a hero to the world. This film premieres on Dec. 20 and is showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame. Visit www.worldgolfimax.com for show times and ticket pricing. The IMAX Theater is located at One World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>The 1904 Holiday Party Featuring the Heavy Pets, Universal Green, the Good Wood Band and Colored Sound at 1904 Music Hall on Dec. 20 at 8 p.m. Located at 19 N. Ocean St. in Jacksonville. Tickets can be purchased from www.1904musicall.com.</p> <p>Holiday High Tea at One Ocean Resort & Spa High Tea at Azurea Lounge runs every day through Sunday, Dec. 30. The elegant afternoon refreshment is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. at \$35 per person at One Ocean Resort & Spa. Guests can also enjoy finger sandwich assortments and miniature tartlets. Reservations are required and may be made by calling the hotel directly at (904) 249-7402.</p> <p>Comedy Hour at Dahlia's Pour House Attend the "conservatory" at Dahlia's Pour House in the King Street District for fun and laughs with some of Jacksonville's best comedians. This free event starts at 9:30 p.m. at 2695 Post St. in Jacksonville.</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 Amber@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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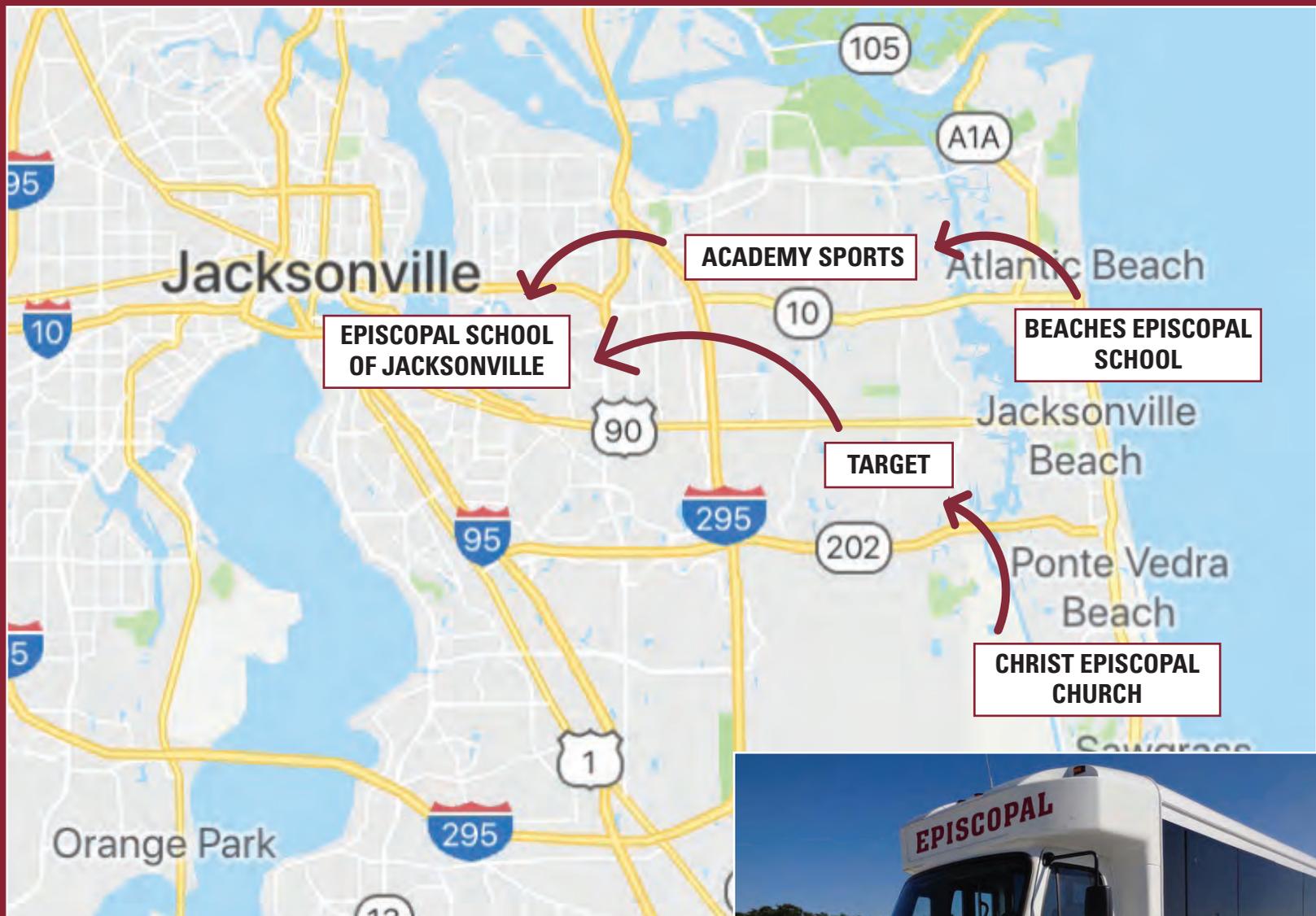
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BUS 2

7:00 a.m. Beaches Episcopal School (Jacksonville Beach)
7:25 a.m. Atlantic and Kernan (Academy Sports parking lot)

AFTERNOON DROP-OFF

BUS 1 AND 2

3:40 p.m. Munnerlyn Campus
5:45 p.m. Knight Campus
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Rotary, Recorder seek nominations for 27th Annual Local Heroes Awards

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Ponte Vedra Recorder are seeking nominations for the 27th Annual Local Heroes Awards.

Presented each year, the Local Heroes Awards recognize individuals who give back to the community and reflect the spirit of the Rotary Club's motto, "Service Above Self." From volunteering with local charities to giving back through the arts, education, environmental protection activities and more, the

Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and Recorder seek to recognize the "unsung heroes" who make Ponte Vedra such a special place to live, work and raise a family.

Residents who know of an individual they believe is deserving of recognition as a Local Hero are encouraged to complete the nomination form on this page and email it to Rotarian Ken Smith at lksmith59@yahoo.com. Nomination forms may also be

mailed to: Local Heroes Awards Committee, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, PO Box 70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004. The deadline for submission of nominations is Friday, Dec. 14.

Award recipients will be recognized at the Local Heroes Awards reception to be held Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, at Marsh Landing Country Club.

For more information, contact Rotarian Ken Smith at (904) 710-7702 or lksmith59@yahoo.com.



The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach

in cooperation with The Ponte Vedra Recorder

2019 Local Heroes Awards *Nomination Form*

Nominate your friend, neighbor or colleague for the Local Heroes Awards recognizing individuals who give back to the community!

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____ Telephone: _____

Nominee's contributions to the community (attach additional pages as needed):

Nomination Submitted By:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____ Telephone: _____

Nomination Deadline: Friday, Dec. 14, 2018
Email entries to: lksmith59@yahoo.com
or mail to: Local Heroes Awards Committee Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach
P.O. Box 70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004

*Thank you
for your nomination!
Awards to be presented
Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019
Marsh Landing Country Club*

Dollhouses

Continued from 5

The nonprofit isn't just for children dealing with trauma, but for those looking for ways to help, and something creative to do. Building Faith Play Therapy Toys uses volunteers to build the houses and create items that go into them. The dollhouses are custom-built and specialized for the child it goes to. All houses contain a living room, kitchen, a bathroom and at least two bedrooms, so the child's doll can always have a "safe space." Then, there's the furniture, dishes, curtains, hand-needlepoint rugs and anything else a home would need.

Findlay said anyone can volunteer to help with the houses, including social groups, school groups, business groups, senior groups and families, who can bond over the shared activity.

"So many people out there are looking for ways to teach their children about helping others, and teaching empathy," Findlay said. "They (volunteers) also like



Photos courtesy of Alison Findlay

The dollhouses are custom-made and come with a multitude of household items, including food, dishes hand-made furniture and needlepoint rugs.

the fact that we are using our hands to build something and it's not just punching keys on a telephone."

Findlay said her ultimate goal is to have a community center with multiple production lines to build the dollhouses, where people can just come in when



they have time and lend a hand, put their building skills to use or just start a new hobby.

But most importantly, she said, they will help a child overcome abuse and create a better future for their own children.

"Children are born totally innocent and they deserve to be able to keep that," Findlay said. "If you do this, you break the cycle and not create another generation of abused kids."

For more information on Building Faith Play Therapy Toys, visit www.bfptt.org, email info@bfptt.org or call (904) 527-8158.

Obituaries

Continued from 7

Genevieve Rouby Griffin

Genevieve Rouby Griffin, 90, of Jacksonville, died Dec. 1, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Loreto S. Johnson

Loreto S. Johnson, 86, died Dec. 4, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com.

Tyler Duane Lowery

Tyler Duane Lowery, 21, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Dec. 1, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Homer James Rocha

Homer James Rocha, 59, of Jacksonville, died Dec. 2, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

David H. Williams

David H. Williams, 71, died Dec. 4, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com.

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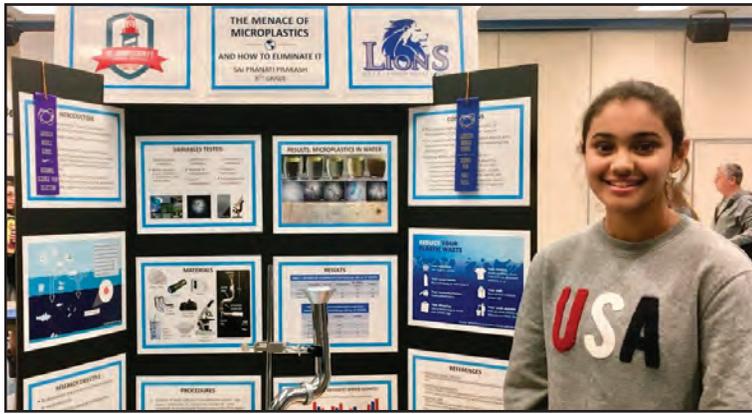
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SaiPranati Prakash displays her first-place project, "The Menace of Microplastics," in the Environmental Science category of Landrum Middle School's recent science fair.

Photo courtesy of Madhu Prakash



Landrum Middle School holds annual science fair

Nearly 100 students recently participated in the display of their scientific studies at Alice B. Landrum Middle School's annual science fair. The winners of the competition were as follows:

Winners in Behavioral 1

First place: Ella McCarthy and Lily Darnell

Second place: Sarah Wicker and Josie Sagasser

Third place: Molly Schmachtenberger and Ella Geric

Winners in Behavioral 2

First place: Mina Saloniis

Second place: Oscar D'Amato

Third place: Charlotte King

Winners in Life Science

First place: Carli Smith

Second place: Hope Freedman

Third place: Dixie Wallerius and Zara Khan

Winners in Environmental Science

First place: SaiPranati Prakash

Second place: Megan Landis and Alexis Magnano

Third place: Emily Dorairaj

Winners in Physics

First place: Foster Keebaugh

Second place: Harjun Singh and Callum Dwyer

Third place: Carter Magnano

Winners in Chemistry

First place: Emmerly Harrington and Aubrie Ricchini

Second place: Lucille Sinavsky

Third place: Justin Bonn

The winners will compete in the Regional Science Fair in February at First Coast Technical College in St. Augustine. Winners from this competition could advance to the 64th State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida in March in Lakeland.



Photo courtesy of Sherill Herzfeld

Rachel Marcus-Mitchell, Holly Udell, Dana Scheer, Karen Freedman, Donne Ordile and Amy Udoff gather at Beth El – The Beaches Synagogue's annual fashion show fundraiser.

Beth El Sisterhood Fashion Show benefits community

Beth El Sisterhood's annual fashion show fundraiser turned out to be a success for both Beth El and its charitable causes.

The fashion show was held in early November at the Beaches Synagogue in Ponte Vedra Beach.

"We had a record crowd in attendance," Fashion Show Chair Sherill Herzfeld said. "It was a packed house at Beth El and everyone enjoyed themselves."

The show featured fashions by Athleta of the St. Johns Town Center, Carla Shoes & Accessories of Ponte Vedra Beach and custom beaded cuffs by Erica Mesquit.

"We collected donations in conjunction with Jewish Family & Community Services (JFCS) for a large number of Holocaust survivors in Jacksonville liv-

ing under the poverty level," Herzfeld said.

During the event, Colleen Lloyd Rodriguez from JFCS discussed the organization and how the donations will help enrich lives in the community.

"It was astounding to hear how poorly they live and what the JFCS does to help them daily" Herzfeld said.

Modeling the outfits were Beth El Sisterhood members. They had a "glam squad" to get them ready for the show that included Susan Birch with her Dior makeup team and Sara Marvin with her Lux Hair Studio team. A prosecco bar with berries and finger foods by Jessica Day Healthy Gourmet was also served.

For more information on the Beth El Sisterhood and Beth El The Beaches Synagogue, call (904) 273-9100 or visit bethelbeaches.org.



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Sawgrass Country Club \$325,000

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Ocean Grande \$495,000

Stunning 3BR/3BA penthouse condo with expansive marsh & ICW views, just steps to the beach. Spacious kitchen w/ss appl, granite & island. Screened porch w/built-in grill. All bedrooms ensuite. 1 car garage. MLS 969714



91 San Juan Dr. #D3 - The Pointe at PVB \$640,000

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Big Cypress - ICW \$1,275,000

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Sixth-graders at Palm Valley Academy run through the starting line banner at the Bobcat Bolt.

Palm Valley Academy's Bobcat Bolt raises \$119,000 for more school improvements

Palm Valley Academy — the new K-8 school in Nocatee — held a fundraiser in November called the Bobcat Bolt that ultimately raised \$119,000 for continued improvements of the school.

Palm Valley Academy students ran their hearts out despite chilly weather and a wet and muddy track, collectively running nearly 2,500 miles in the one-day fundraising event. Kindergarten through sixth-grade students ran more than 20,678 laps, which is approximately two miles per student and 2,481 miles overall.

Exceeding its fundraising goal, the school plans to use the money for a new playground and shade structures as well as a middle school resource room. Flagler Hospital was the title sponsor of the event.

The 2018 top earner was Grayson Jones from Mrs. Giampetro's second-grade class. Jones earned a BravoZ Entertainment Center Up Package for him and a friend. The top fundraising class was Mrs. Bell's kindergarten class, earning them a VIP class party at BravoZ Entertainment Center.



ABOVE: Fourth-graders complete laps around the field at the event.



RIGHT: Kindergartners line up after participating in the run.



LEFT: Volunteer parents mark off laps as students complete them during the run.

Photos courtesy of Katrine Strickland

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Nocatee families enjoy breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Children in Nocatee had the magical opportunity to share their Christmas wishes with Santa and Mrs. Claus last weekend.

Held at Nocatee's Splash Waterpark on Saturday, Dec. 8, the event was highlighted by the dynamic duo's visit, which also included photos with attendees, breakfast and various kids activities.

Visit Nocatee.com for more on upcoming holiday events in the community.



ABOVE: Two Nocatee girls get the chance to meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus during Nocatee's Breakfast with Santa event last Saturday, Dec. 8.



LEFT: A Nocatee family stands in front of an inflatable at the Breakfast with Santa event.

Photos courtesy of Nocatee Ponte Vedra Nocatee.com

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DECEMBER 13, 2018

Holiday Gift & Entertainment Guide



Holiday Gift Guide

With Christmas under two weeks away, the Recorder has compiled the following last-minute gift guide to help you find the perfect holiday presents for your loved ones right here in Ponte Vedra.



UNDERWOOD JEWELERS
 330 A1A North, Suite 204
 Ponte Vedra Beach
Diamond earrings

You can never go wrong with something shiny for your loved one. Underwood Jewelers is currently offering all diamond stud earrings and diamond pendants for 15 percent off until the end of December. If you're interested in something else, Underwood's has you covered with bracelets, cuff links, engagement rings, necklaces, watches and more from top designers from around the world.



VILLAGE ARTS
 155 Tourside Drive, Suite 1520
 Ponte Vedra Beach
Local art

Is that special person in your life an art lover? Head over to Village Arts in Sawgrass Village to find work from local and regional artists specializing in oil, watercolor, mixed media, photography and more. The local business also offers expert framing.



THE SPA AT PONTE VEDRA INN & CLUB
 302 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
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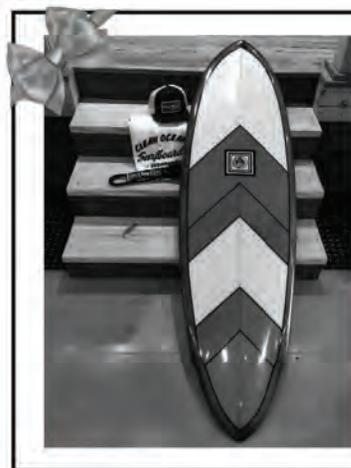
JOHN CRAIG CLOTHIERS
 280 Village Main St., Suite 950
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Handmade feather brackish tie

Head to John Craig Clothiers in Sawgrass Village to find timeless and sophisticated menswear, such as these handmade feather brackish ties.



SAWGRASS MARRIOTT GOLF RESORT & SPA
 1000 PGA Tour Blvd
 Ponte Vedra Beach
Gift certificate

Escape to an oasis of wellness and serenity at The Sawgrass Spa by purchasing a gift certificate. Treat yourself or a loved one to a steam, soak in the whirlpool, massage, nail care and more. Visit www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/jaxsw-sawgrass-marriott-golf-resort-and-spa for more information and to buy the certificate online.



CLEAN OCEAN SURFBOARDS
 340 Front St., Suite 740, Ponte Vedra Beach
Surfboard or other surf accessory

The weather may be cooling down, but sunny days at the beach and in the surf will be back before we know it. Prepare for paradise at Clean Ocean Surfboards and find yourself or a loved one a new surfboard, like this custom Bonzer shaped by Tony Iannarone. While you're at it, check out the shop's apparel and other surf accessories, such as this Dakine leash.



LEMON TWIST
 215 Tourside Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach
Alashan Cashmere fox trim wind chill topper

As the weather starts to dip down a bit, consider visiting Lemon Twist in Ponte Vedra Beach's Sawgrass Village to purchase an item like this Alashan Cashmere fox trim wind chill topper.



CARLA SHOES & ACCESSORIES
 310 Front St, Suite 830
 Ponte Vedra Beach
Donald Pliner shoe and Mary Frances X Marks the Spot Purse

Step off the runway with these eye-catching accessories fit for a queen. These slide sandals feature a block heel and rhinestone embellishment that will perfectly match this one-of-a-kind beaded treasure chest purse.



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

Mindful holiday spending brings a financially peaceful new year



Mary Svoboda
Guest Columnist

By Mary Svoboda
Special to the Recorder

For most, the holidays are a time of family, food and shopping. It's the season of giving, which also means it's a season of spending.

According to the 2018 Bankrate Holiday Gifting Survey, more than two in five shoppers feel pressured to purchase a gift that costs more than what they're comfortable spending. So, while finding your family and friends the perfect gift is ideal, be mindful to not let it take a toll on your savings and financial goals going into a new year.

The National Retail Federation reported that the average consumer is expected to spend \$1,007.24 this holiday season. Considering more than half of consumers in a recent GOBankingRates survey reported having less than \$1,000 in their savings account, that number could turn festive spirits sour when January credit card bills arrive.

While the holiday season is already underway, it is still possible to end the year without taking on additional debt by creating a practical budget, staying organized, keeping track of costs, getting creative with gift-giving and planning for next year early. Here are a few tips to help keep yourself on the financial nice list:

■ **Establish a holiday budget.** Your budget should be based on your current income and what you can feasibly spend without taking away from other expenses, such as bills and necessities. Stick to this budget, no matter what, and leave yourself a little room for extra expenses, such as last-minute gifts, travel costs,

lodging, food for family gatherings, entertainment and décor.

■ **Get organized.** With Black Friday and Cyber Monday behind us, you may have gotten some expenses out of the way. Total what you've spent for gifts, décor and travel, and what you still anticipate you'll spend in the name of holiday merriment. Establish a gift and expenses list. This should include everyone that you plan on purchasing a gift for, as well as an allocated amount for each.

■ **Get creative with gifts.** Opt for a new tradition, draw names and buy a gift for one person instead of buying for everyone. Consider a unique and personalized present, such as a homemade gift, baked goods, second-hand treasure or even the gift of time spent together. You could also give the gift of an experience or share your education to teach someone you love a new skill.

■ **Share the gift of financial education.** The 2018 Bankrate Holiday Gifting Survey revealed that more than half of parents feel pressure to overspend during the holidays. Start your child or teen a savings account to help him/her earn money for spending and gifts, while also teaching them the importance of budgeting. Cash is a fast and easy gift, but an initial deposit into a savings or debit account — coupled with a trip to the credit union to learn about banking — is truly a gift that keeps giving.

■ **Plan for next year.** It's never too early to get a head start on saving! Many financial institutions offer a holiday savings or Christmas Club program that helps you automatically save for next year's holiday season. Evaluate how your spending goes this holiday season and use it as a general rule for how you can improve your budget for next year.

SPENDING continues on Page 19

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens hosts ZOOLights

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is again hosting ZOOLights this year to celebrate the holiday season.

The Zoo setting offers a unique holiday light experience Dec. 14 through Jan. 5 (closed Christmas Day), after kicking off Dec. 7-9. Guests at ZOOLights can enjoy cool weather festivities such as sipping hot chocolate, roasting marshmallows for s'mores, taking a ride on the illuminated train and getting a holiday picture with Santa.

This year, ZOOLights is debuting the Jingle Bell Jukebox Revenue to help celebrate the holiday spirit. A lively performance of festive songs performed by local artists will take place on the Great Lawn with nightly shows.

In addition to the regular festivities, ZOOLights offers themed nights. From Dec. 21-23, the Zoo will host a tacky Christmas sweater event. Star Wars night is on Saturday, Jan. 5.

Admission starts at \$8 for members, \$10 for non-members and children ages 2 and younger are free. The event will be held 6 to 9:30 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday and 6 to 10 p.m. on weekends.

ZOOLights is presented by Community First Credit Union. The Zoo will continue to have regular park hours each day, closing at 5 p.m., and re-opening at 6 p.m.

Visit zoolights.jacksonvillezoo.org/ for special pricing offers and more information.



Photo courtesy of Lisa Grabeman

Newcomers of the Beaches President Sally Delp, Vice President Linda Palmer and Board member Barbara McHugh gather at the organization's recent holiday soiree at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Newcomers of the Beaches holds annual holiday soiree

The Newcomers of the Beaches recently held their annual holiday soiree at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Newcomers is a social club that is open to women who have recently moved into the Beaches area or have recently gone through a major life event. The mission of the organization is

to give members the opportunity to meet other women, tap into valuable community resources, learn about life at the Beaches and make new friends.

Nonmembers are welcome to join the organization's monthly luncheon held the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, visit www.newcomersofthebeaches.com.



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Photocourtesy of Chabad at the Beaches

Lenny Demaglio of Atlantic Beach lights the menorah at the "Grand Chanukah Celebration" hosted by Chabad at the Beaches on Dec. 3 at Watson Realty Corp. in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Chabad at the Beaches holds 15th annual 'Grand Chanukah Celebration'

Chabad at the Beaches hosted its 15th annual "Grand Chanukah Celebration" Dec. 3 at Watson Realty Corp. in Ponte Vedra Beach.

This year's event featured a BMX stunt

show, as well as eating latkes (potato pancakes), playing dreidel games and listening to holiday music. There was also a free raffle and the lighting of the menorah for the second night of Chanukah.



Asleep at the WHEEL

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Spending

Continued from 17

■ **Find additional funds.** Until your holiday savings or Christmas Club accounts are started for next year, here are a few ways to free up additional funds. To avoid swiping your credit card, try getting creative with gifts (such the ideas above). Also, don't be afraid to let your family and friends know that you're on a budget. They may even be relieved to

know that they can reduce their spending, too. If you have a loan payment, utilize a non-debt resource, such as a skip-a-payment option through your financial institution. If you get a holiday loan, always pay it back within 12 months.

Mary Svoboda is the chief operating officer and chief lending officer of Jax Federal Credit Union, which serves more than 35,000 members in Duval, Clay, Nassau, Baker and St. Johns counties. For more information, including branch locations, visit jaxfcu.org.

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Sawgrass Marriott Spa hosts open house, offers holiday-inspired treatments

The Sawgrass Marriott Spa hosted locals on Nov. 29 for an open house event to experience all that the facility has to offer the community.

Attendees enjoyed mini hand treatments, facial treatments and a wine tasting accompanied by treats from Vernon's and Peterbrooke Chocolatier. Spa Director Blanca Albor raffled away several items, including spa treatments, spa products, dinner for two at Vernon's and more.

HOLIDAY TREATMENTS

In other Sawgrass Marriott news, the Spa is currently offering a number of holiday-inspired treatments that are available through the end of the year. The treatments, which include a complimentary cocktail, are as follows:

Marshmallow Me Mosa Manicure or Pedicure

Accompanying cocktail: Peppermint Martini

Duration: 45 minutes

Description: Guests choosing this treatment will dip in a sparkling Champagne soak while a golden-brown sugar and premium aged rum exfoliator wipes out dead, wintry skin. The treatment features a warm shea and cocoa butter application — fragrant with the scent of billowy marshmallows.

Candy Cane Champagne Dream Body Scrub

Accompanying cocktail: Poinsettia

Duration: 45 minutes

Description: This treatment starts off with a fizzy Candy Cane Champagne mist and a sweet cream-scented sea salt scrub to remove dry skin. It's then topped off with a dab of moisturizing Hello Yellow Cream.

All is Bright Facial

Accompanying cocktail: Poinsettia

Duration: 50 minutes

Description: This treatment features a green tea-infused facial cleanser and the One Fine Day Facial Polish, designed to soothe and moisturize skin, followed by a mist of refreshing Aronia fruit and rose water tonic. A mask with organic pumpkin puree helps to detox skin. Guests choosing this treatment experience a helping of a resveratrol-rich serum as it delivers nutrients and antioxidants to their complexion, while Crow Catcher serum helps eliminate the look of fine lines around the eyes.

For more information and to book a reservation, call the Sawgrass Spa at (904) 674-4772.



Sawgrass Marriott Spa Director Blanca Albor addresses those in attendance of the open house on Nov. 29.



ABOVE: Displayed are the products used in the Sawgrass Marriott Spa's All is Bright Facial, which is one of three holiday-inspired treatments offered at the Spa through the end of the year.

LEFT: The Spa's holiday-inspired treatments are accompanied by a complimentary cocktail.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Becky from Farmhouse Fresh at the open house



Rod Strader and Melissa Varnes



Bo Cure at the open house event



April Hart and Loretta Albarano enjoy the open house.



Photos by John Blauvelt
Miss Felicia Rhoden acknowledges the crowd at "The Nutcracker."

Christ Episcopal Church presents Miss Felicia's 23rd production of holiday classic 'The Nutcracker'

By Jon Blauvelt

An annual First Coast holiday tradition continued on Saturday when the Dance Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church presented Miss Felicia's 23rd production of "The Nutcracker."

Held at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall, this year's production on Dec. 8 was jam-packed with various forms of dance including ballet, tap, hip hop, gymnastics and more. Lead roles in the show included Anya Ragatz as Clara, Emily Reeves as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Trinity Jacobs as the Snow Princess. Nearly 200

people, ranging in age from toddlers to adults, came together to put on the show, which was again produced and directed by Felicia Rhoden.

"It's always magic to me," Rhoden said. "It's never old. It's always new, after all these years."

A former professional ballet dancer, Rhoden started the production shortly after she and her husband, Fred, moved to Ponte Vedra. Hearing that Rhoden was a dancer, the former rector of Christ Church, Jim Cooper, called and asked if she would teach ballet to the church's

NUTCRACKER continues on Page 22



Students of Miss Felicia Rhoden's Dance Ministry at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach present the 23rd production of "The Nutcracker" Dec. 8 at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall.



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Students of Miss Felicia Rhoden's Dance Ministry at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach present the 23rd production of "The Nutcracker" Dec. 8 at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performance Hall.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt



Nutcracker

Continued from 21

children. Rhoden started doing so with a few girls and was subsequently inspired to produce "The Nutcracker."

"It means everything to me," Rhoden said. "This has been my passion for 23 years, and I've watched it grow from the first show at the church in the parish hall with 17 little girls."

This year's show proved to be more challenging than usual for Rhoden, however, as her husband, Fred, recently passed away. A seat was dedicated for him in the audience.

What lifts Rhoden up, though, is the fact that the production gives back to those in need, year after year. Beneficiaries of "The Nutcracker" include Dreams Come True, Amistad Orphanage in Bolivia and Community Hospice & Palliative Care's Community PedsCare program.

"I think what makes this ministry so special and what makes this Nutcracker so special is that we do it for children who cannot dance, who are sick," Rhoden said. "All of the children know that. They're dancing with love and joy and giving in their hearts. It's Christmastime. Everybody has that warm feeling. It's just amazing."

And even after 23 years, Rhoden is still overcome by emotion by the production and what it means in her life.

"When it does finally come together — and I always stand in the wings, downstage, right wing — I cry with joy and pride," she said. "I'm very humbled that so many years ago, God gave me this opportunity to work with children in this ministry."




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Attendees of the St. Augustine Bed & Breakfast Holiday Tour on Dec. 8 enter the Penny Farthing Inn.

St. Augustine Bed & Breakfast Holiday Tour celebrates 25 years

Several First Coast residents and other area visitors enjoyed the 25th annual St. Augustine Bed & Breakfast Holiday Tour last weekend presented by St. Augustine Historic Inns.

Held Dec. 8-10, the event brought attendees to over 20 of the Oldest City's bed and breakfasts decorated for the season, as well as cultural/heritage institutions in the city such as the Lightner Museum and St. Augustine Lighthouse & Museum, among others.

Along the way, tour attendees enjoyed savory fare, sweet treats and beverages from local

restaurants and establishments, as well as entertainment ranging from guitar and piano players to singing quartets. Participating restaurants included Catch 27, Ice Plant, Meehan's, the Floridian and others.

A portion of tour's proceeds supported the RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) of St. Johns County, which provides opportunities for people 55 and over to assist children and adults in their educational pursuits, mobilize community volunteers for service and assist local nonprofits with special support.



Attendees of the tour enter into the Cedar House Inn.



St. Augustine Distillery offers spirits at the Collector Luxury Inn & Gardens.



A fireplace is decorated for the holidays at Cedar House Inn.



A musician plays a few tunes at the Bayfront Wescott House.



ABOVE: Attendees of the tour enjoy the holiday tradition.

LEFT: Christmas tree glistens at the Bayfront Wescott House.

Photos by Susan Griffin

The more the merrier: Holiday enthusiast Deborah Martin decks the halls with 101 Christmas trees



The self-described “Griswolds of Palm Valley,” Deborah Martin and Steve Williams

By Amber Lake

From the outside, Deborah Martin’s home looks like a standard two-story house, modestly built and nestled in the woods along the Intracoastal Waterway.

On the inside, however, lays a collection of holiday décor that would put Santa himself to shame. St. Nicks of all colors and creeds, tinsel, striped candies, bells, garland and a pervasive red-and-white color scheme overload the senses of every visitor who steps through the front doors of the Palm Valley home. But that’s just the foyer.

At first impression, one could argue that Martin might be “overdoing” Christmas a tad.

What most people come to admire when taking a tour through the house isn’t the standard Christmas ornamentation, however, it’s the diverse collection of Christmas trees that are spread everywhere from the kitchen to the guest bathroom. Each tree is individually decorated with its own theme and history. Martin has even made visitors a tree “guide,” which she designed on Excel and lists the name of each tree and its location in the house. All 101 trees, to be exact.

“It’s a sickness, really,” Martin said, laughing. “My son says I am a hoarder. But it’s really just limited to Christmas.”

A few of Martin’s favorite trees are, “Tacky Florida,” “Christmas in the Wild,” “Travel Memories,” “Diamonds are a Girl’s Best Friend” and “Vintage Valentines,” which is decorated with a preserved collection of her mother’s first Valentine’s cards from the 1940s.

Martin started accumulating Christmas



Photos by Amber Lake

The “Sea Treasures” tree

trees in 2002, when she moved into the Palm Valley home with her partner, Steve Williams. Collecting the trees began as a next logical step to host the extra ornaments she received as gifts or bought throughout the years. The more ornaments she collected, the more trees she needed. Eventually, she got close to 100 and decided to dedicate herself to reaching the number as a goal. In order to cut down on costs, Martin would take odd jobs at local gift shops, asking for decorative trees instead of a paycheck. The process took 12 years.

“It got totally out of control,” Martin said.

Part of the drive to collect, however, wasn’t just about showing them off to her friends and family. She makes a point to note that growing up, her mother never spent much time preparing the house for Christmas.

“My mom wasn’t really into it,” she said. “Back then, we just had an aluminum tree. I think that’s part of what got me going. It’s like I’m making up for that.”

TREES continues on Page 25



The “Angels Among Us” tree



The “Orange you Glad you’re a Gator” tree

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Trees

Continued from 24

When Martin hit her goal of 100 trees, she couldn't resist going for a little "extra" and completed her Excel spreadsheet with the final tree, fittingly themed with Disney's "101 Dalmatians."

Martin said the trees aren't just for admiring. They are imbued with memories of not only Christmases past but of distinct moments in her life.

"I really do remember as I'm putting them out every year," she said. "I remember where these things came from and their histories. Some of them were my mother's or some we inherited over the years or some remind me of places we traveled."

Every year Martin begins to set up for Christmas, she is transported back over the years of her life, reliving each ornament



Photo by Amber Lake

Brooke and Grandma's tree

as if it were a special memory. One tree, she recalled, is her first with her son. It is decorated with paint-by-numbers pictures instead of ornaments because at the time she couldn't afford the "real deal." This process of setting up and arranging takes Martin over two weeks.

It's a process that she jokingly said her longtime partner, Williams, is a "good sport about."

"His job is helping get down the stuff from the attic and hauling it over from the shed," Martin said. "He also sets up the whole (backyard)."

"Tell them what's your other favorite part, Steve," Martin asked.

"Figuring out the electricity," Williams responded, without hesitation.

Looking across the house, every lightbulb on all 101 trees blinks with unwavering enthusiasm.

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S.A.F.E., SANTA JOIN FORCES TO GET PETS HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue held a holiday pet adoption event on Saturday, Dec. 8, in the parking lot of Pet Supermarket at 880 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. S.A.F.E.'s mobile van brought along several dogs and puppies looking for forever homes, and Santa was on hand to take photos. Six puppies and one dog were adopted at the event, and another two dogs went to the foster-to-adopt program. The event also featured live music and a holiday bake sale. The S.A.F.E. adoption van is scheduled to return to the Ponte Vedra Pet Supermarket on Jan. 12. Visit S.A.F.E.'s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SAFEPetRescue for more information.

Photos by Paris Moulden



Local nonprofit spreads Christmas cheer at Nemours Children's Care

Ponte Vedra-based nonprofit Hugs From Hunter 3 helped spread the Christmas cheer at Nemours Children's Care in Jacksonville last week.

The local organization arranged for Santa and Mrs. Claus to visit the clinic's psychology and psychiatry department on Wednesday, Dec. 5 and deliver 100 gifts to patients. This year, Hugs from Hunter 3 presented Nemours Children's Care a check for \$25,000 to support the Mental Health Support Fund.

The nonprofit was created by the parents of Matthew, Michael and Hunter Hodges, three boys who shared the same rare disease — dyskeratosis, a genetic form of bone marrow failure that is identified in fewer than 300 cases in the world. Michael and Hunter have both passed away from their disease and Matthew continues to fight.

The organization's mission statement is "healing hearts by serving those in need" in the community. For more information, visit www.hugsfromhunter3.com.



Photo courtesy of Brittany Fowler

Children at Nemours Children's Care in Jacksonville gather with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Dec. 5 thanks to the efforts of Ponte Vedra-based nonprofit Hugs From Hunter 3.

Three factors to consider when making charitable gifts



By Karsten Jacobson, CFP®

Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

The holiday season is here, which means gift-giving is probably on your mind.

In addition to making gifts to your family and friends, you also

may be interested in contributing to charitable organizations. But before you donate financial assets, such as stocks, you will need to consider several factors, including taxes, your portfolio balance and the reputation of the charity. Let's look at these areas:

Taxes — Your donations to qualified charities (those that are considered 501(c) (3) organizations by the Internal Revenue Service) can give you tax deductions — if you itemize deductions on your tax return. Due to recent tax law changes, however, the standard deduction for 2018 has almost doubled, to \$24,000 for married couples, and to \$12,000 for single filers. As a result, you may be less likely to itemize deductions, so you could have less incentive, at least for tax reasons, to make charitable gifts. If you give appreciated stocks, however, you may be allowed a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift on the date of the transfer, even if your original cost was only a fraction of today's value. Plus, you may not be subject to the capital gains tax you might have to pay if you eventually sold the stocks. Also, depending on your age, you might be able to use your traditional IRA as a charitable-funding vehicle. Once you turn 70½, you generally must begin taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions or RMDs — from your traditional IRA. (Roth IRAs are not subject to RMDs during your lifetime.) These RMDs from your traditional IRA are taxable, but you may be able to exclude up to \$100,000 of RMDs per year from your taxable income if you transfer the funds directly to qualified charitable organizations. In any case, consult with your tax advisor before donating appreciated assets to a charity.

Portfolio balance — When you donate financial assets to a charity, you are also taking them away from your portfolio. This could be an issue, especially

Local development firm offering visits from Santa to nonprofits, schools, events

Cadow Development Consulting (CDC), a local fundraising and development firm, is offering nonprofit agencies and schools who serve children the opportunity to host a visit from Santa Claus.

Years ago, while playing the magical character of Santa for a girlfriend who taught third-graders in an impoverished neighborhood, CDC Principle Stanton Cadow was struck by a heartbreaking request from an 8-year-old child. When asked what the child wanted for Christmas, the child looked up at Cadow and said, “a daddy.”

Moved by this request, Cadow decided to offer Santa Claus to other nonprofit agencies and schools, particularly those in low-income neighborhoods. After starting a new firm, Cadow Development Consulting in 2017, Cadow decided it was time to resume this practice to give back and help make Christmas more enjoyable for less fortunate youth.

To reserve Santa for your agency, ministry, school or Christmas event, go to www.cadowdevelopmentconsulting.com and complete a request form or call (225) 921-9102.

Jacobson

Continued from 26

if you repeatedly donate the same types of assets. For example, if you’re donating some growth-oriented stocks, will you lower the overall growth potential of your portfolio? You may want to consult with a financial professional to ensure your charitable gifts will still allow you to maintain a portfolio balance appropriate for your goals and risk tolerance.

Reputation of the charity — You may want to do some homework to make sure you are giving to a reputable charity. Many experts on charitable giving say that a worthwhile charity should spend at least 75 percent of its income on programs, rather than administrative costs. You may be able to find this type of information on a charitable group’s annual report and its website. You can also browse the web for the names of agencies that evaluate charitable groups.

By considering the aspects of charitable giving described above, you can get more satisfaction from your generosity — because you’ll know that your gift not only supports a good cause, but also fits well into your overall financial picture.

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

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Dr. Camarda's Weekly Wealth Nugget
BARRON'S ASKS JEFF ABOUT HIS RESEARCH INTO ADVISOR DESIGNATIONS AND MISCONDUCT

Jeff was recently interviewed by Barron's again, this time about advisor professionalism, poor training, and malpractice issues among those with designations like CFP, ChFC, and CFA, which are a focus of his ongoing research. He teamed up with two professors and the resulting research into 30,000 Florida brokers uncovered some surprises:

- On Gender: Maleness was the most powerful factor associated with advisor misconduct and that investors are much better off picking a female advisor with a CFP or ChFC than a gender-neutral advisor with a designation.
- On Dual Registration: Holding both commission sales and fiduciary advisor licenses was associated with much higher levels of misconduct
- On Designations: Misconduct went down for ChFCs but not for CFPs –disturbing since the CFP is widely promoted as the “gold standard” of advice

Jeff believes one of the reasons the industry should care about these issues is the social impact. He says, “Money skimmed off in high costs and lost to poor advice won’t be there to help millions of aging boomers pay for their long retirements and expensive health care, right at time when Federal safety net programs like Social Security seemed doomed. This is bad for the boomers and will squeeze Washington even more.” Jeff wants for brokers and advisors to become true professionals, industry-wide and be faithful fiduciaries in all dealings and sees “a real profession developing along these lines, regulated by a state analog to a Medical Association or Bar, requiring at least a Masters degree and maybe a practitioners doctorate...”

Read the entire interview Designations and Misconduct: A Surprising Connection here: <https://www.barrons.com/articles/designations-and-misconduct-a-surprising-connection-1540404831>



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 Magazine's* “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 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.

**Trademark: license fees for CFP, ChFC, CLU, CFS and BCM have not or will no longer be paid and Jeff Camarda no longer currently uses these trademarks; the above mention is notice of past accomplishment only.

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Aqua Grill owner Cary Hart and Lisa and Jeff Amato address attendees of the recent gourmet wine dinner at the Ponte Vedra Beach restaurant benefiting the Kate Amato Foundation.

Kate Amato Foundation events raise \$110,000 for pediatric cancer research

A recent gourmet wine dinner at Aqua Grill in Ponte Vedra Beach and golf tournament/party at Marsh Landing Country Club generated net proceeds of over \$110,000 for the Kate Amato Foundation, a locally founded nonprofit organization that funds pediatric cancer research.

The foundation was started after Lisa and Jeff Amato lost their daughter, Kate Amato, in 2016 to a rare and aggressive form of pediatric cancer. The family was inspired to continue the fight against childhood cancer by raising funds to help find innovative and effective treatments.

“There is a lack of funding for pediatric cancer treatment because it’s just not as profitable,” Aqua Grill owner Cary Hart said. “I hear what these children and their families go through and my heart just bleeds. I have two kids and I can’t imagine the pain. It’s amazing the strength of the Amato family.”

The Sunday night wine dinner at Aqua Grill was sold out with more than 60 guests, who bid generously on a wide variety of items including jewelry, artwork, golf experiences and international travel packages to Scotland and South Africa.



Photos courtesy of Cary Hart

Bruno Coutrier, Lisa Amato, Alan Henderson and Ryan Mikesell gather at Kate's Klassic Golf Tournament.

Although the Kate Klassic Golf Tournament was rained out the next day at Marsh Landing Country Club, the benefit continued to raise money with silent auctions, a golf pong tournament, food and drinks.

“We love how the day turned out; it perfectly reflected Kate’s warm and resilient spirit,” Lisa Amato said. “We persisted despite the weather, and people came together to enjoy each other’s company and continue to raise

money for pediatric cancer research, which is severely underfunded.”

This is the second year of activity for the foundation. In October, it was announced that the \$100,000 from the first year’s fundraisers was being distributed among three major university-based research projects. According to the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation, only four percent

FOUNDATION continues on Page 34

Rick and Susan Sontag make \$5M gift to Brain Tumor Network Designated Fund

Ponte Vedra Beach residents Rick and Susan Sontag recently made a \$5 million donation to The Brain Tumor Network, a nonprofit organization within the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

The Sontags established the fund at The Community Foundation as a continuance of their philanthropic focus on brain cancer research and patient support.

The Brain Tumor Network was launched in late 2014 and provides personalized treatment-related navigation services through a staff of credentialed nurses and social workers in consultation with a national network of neuro-oncologists and other medical specialists. This service is provided free to adult patients whose lives have been impacted by a brain tumor diagnosis.

Susan Sontag was diagnosed with brain cancer in 1994, so the family knows from personal experience the difficulty of navigating the medical system to find the best course of treatment. Rick Sontag was formerly the president of Unison Industries, an aviation components manufacturer that was sold to General Electric in 2002. His experience helped inspire the formation of The Sontag Foundation and The Brain Tumor Network. Today, he manages an investment business and is the president of Brain Tumor Network and The Sontag Foundation, a major sponsor of brain cancer-related research.

“We are honored to have The Brain Tumor Network Designated Fund here at The Community Foundation, and we are profoundly grateful that the Sontags have made such a generous gift to support this work,” said Nina Waters, president of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. “While we all fervently wish for a tomorrow when brain cancer is conquered, the Sontags’ gift will help accelerate that outcome while providing crucial services to those dealing with brain cancer today.”

Visit braintumornetwork.org for more information.



LOCAL ROTARY CLUB ENJOYS PRESENTATIONS FROM 2 AREA NONPROFIT LEADERS

Lori Anderson, the executive director of Mission House, and Kirk Farber, the founder of Face4Kids, addressed the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach at the club’s meeting last Thursday, Dec. 6 at Marsh Landing Country Club. Mission House assists homeless adults of the Beaches area in returning to productive and self-sufficient lives, while Face4Kids provides classes/sessions for children that focus on fitness and coordination, public speaking, self-esteem, confidence and overall character development.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt





Photos courtesy of Laura Morey

St. Johns County Sheriff's Office deputies from the Youth Resource Program join the children and other volunteers to stuff stockings. The Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County effort is supported by RE/MAX Unlimited.

RE/MAX Unlimited helps provide 500 Christmas stockings to less fortunate children in St. Johns County

RE/MAX Unlimited is supporting the efforts of Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County to provide 500 Christmas stockings to organizations throughout St. Johns County that work with at-risk youth and homeless families.

The organizations include Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County, Betty Griffin Center, Alpha-Omega Miracle Home, St. Francis House, St Gerard Campus and the Youth Resource Program at the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office. More than 30 child volunteers helped in filling the stockings on Dec. 1 at Crosswater Community Church in Ponte Vedra.

"There is nothing better and more moving than children helping children at the

holidays," said Brenda Horst, owner/broker of RE/MAX Unlimited. "Watching the 'elves' work so hard to bring a little joy to other children is heartwarming. RE/MAX Unlimited is so pleased to be part of Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County."

RE/MAX Unlimited's involvement was key to bringing Stockings 4 Kids to St. Johns County. The program was started 10 years ago in Lee County. This is the first expansion of Stockings 4 Kids outside of Lee County.

STOCKINGS continues on Page 30

Boys at Rodeheaver Boys Ranch take trip to Islands of Adventure thanks to Firehouse Subs' support

The boys residing at Rodeheaver Boys Ranch (RBR) recently enjoyed the thrills of a day at Islands of Adventure in Orlando thanks to Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation (Jacksonville).

The memorable visit included 37 boys, plus dozens of chaperones who enjoyed an entire day at the park at Universal. Firehouse Subs provided the tickets for the park in addition to all accommodations, including the gas to travel and Firehouse Subs meals for all who attended.

Rodeheaver Boys Ranch has been

providing complete care for up to 50 disadvantaged boys at a time for over 68 years, helping thousands of boys since 1950. The Ranch sits on 800 acres located on the St. Johns River in Palatka. Children make their way to RBR because they have no home of their own due to parental death, desertion, divorce, disability or dysfunction. The boys come from difficult backgrounds and the organization believes, "It is better to build boys than to mend men."

RODEHEAVER continues on Page 30



The boys at Rodeheaver Boys Ranch enjoy a recent trip to Islands of Adventure in Orlando thanks to the support of Firehouse Subs.

Photos courtesy of Krista Purcell



Children help stuff stockings for less fortunate children in St. Johns County on Dec. 1 at Crosswater Community Church in Ponte Vedra.

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JEKYLL & HYDE

October 23 - November 24

A WONDERFUL LIFE

November 27 - December 24

Rodeheaver

Continued from 29

Rodeheaver Boys Ranch and Rodeheaver Foundation are both 501c3 nonprofits that do not receive any government funding, and rely solely on grants, events and private donations. To donate to Rodeheaver Foundation, contact Director of Development Krista Purcell at (386) 983-0658 or at KPurcell@RodeheaverFoundation.org.



The boys at Rodeheaver Boys Ranch enjoy a recent trip to Islands of Adventure in Orlando thanks to the support of Firehouse Subs.

Photos courtesy of Krista Purcell



Photo courtesy of Laura Morey

RE/MAX Unlimited owner and event presenting partner Ron Horst (right) stands with his daughter, Erika Valenti, at the stocking stuffing event at Crosswater Community Church.

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Stockings

Continued from 29

In addition to child volunteers, deputies from the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Youth Resource Program joined in the stuffing. Adult volunteers who sponsored Stockings 4 Kids-St. Johns County also helped stuff, including representatives from Landmark Title, Bankers Life, America's Choice Title, Pillar To Post Home Inspectors, NCC Business Services, The Sandberg Team at RE/MAX Unlimited, The Stepp Family and The Cavanaugh Team at RE/MAX Unlimited.

For more information about Stockings 4 Kids in the county, visit stockings4kids.com/stockings-4-kids-st-johns-county.

The Ponte Vedra Recorder was proud to be a sponsor of this event.

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Here is a partial list of COA's programs and services:

- **THE PLAYERS**
- **Meals on Wheels**
- **Community Senior Center, River House**
- **Prescription Assistance**
- **Lifelong Learning Center + 3 Additional Senior Centers**
- **Adult Day Care**
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- **Integrative Memory Enhancement Program**
- **River House Cafe**
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THEME: HAPPY HOLIDAYS

ACROSS

- 1. Snap up
- 5. Ship pronoun
- 8. Table scrap
- 11. Not happening
- 12. Call to matey
- 13. Boredom
- 15. Decant
- 16. Pilaf grain
- 17. Charcuterie stores
- 18. *A ___ for the rest of us! - from "Seinfeld"
- 20. Gwyneth, to friends
- 21. Thing to bear?
- 22. Comedian Tina
- 23. *Warmest or holiday follower
- 26. Feeling of disinterest
- 30. Sculptor Hans/Jean ___
- 31. Chief
- 34. Assistant
- 35. Used in cricket or 301
- 37. *Feast of the Seven Fishes seafood
- 38. Tanks and such
- 39. Purse for a formal affair
- 40. All together
- 42. Make a mistake
- 43. Green bean or peanut
- 45. Infamous ___ Knoll
- 47. Charge carrier
- 48. *___ Navidad!
- 50. Hindu princess
- 52. *This theme wouldn't exist without them

- 55. Swines, in Old English
- 56. Dashing style
- 57. Between a trot and a gallop
- 59. Corpulent
- 60. Ding-a-___
- 61. Knight's breastplate
- 62. "I Thee ___"
- 63. Pea container
- 64. Not a word?

DOWN

- 1. Econ. measure
- 2. *Where Santa's sleigh lands
- 3. Malaria symptom
- 4. Russian soup
- 5. Prison weapon, pl.
- 6. Bette Midler's "___ Pocus"
- 7. *"Tiny tots with their ___ all aglow"
- 8. Billy Joel's "___ the Good Die Young"
- 9. The Colosseum, e.g.
- 10. *___ the season!
- 12. Not aria nor recitative
- 13. Landscaper's tool
- 14. *Welcomed with a count down
- 19. Weight of refuse and chaff, pl.
- 22. Driving hazard
- 23. Does like a crane
- 24. About to explode
- 25. Celiac disease, colloquially
- 26. ___ weevil

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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.

- 27. March of ___
- 28. Emanations from incense and frankincense
- 29. *Christmas predecessor
- 32. Be undecided
- 33. Cotillion ball's main attraction
- 36. *Good follower
- 38. Like smell of burning rubber, e.g.
- 40. Long time
- 41. Staring amorously
- 44. Coolness and composure
- 46. Popular flowering shrub
- 48. Shakespeare's "First ___"
- 49. African antelope
- 50. RBG's garb
- 51. Matured like cheese
- 52. SOS
- 53. Quotable Berra
- 54. What DJs do
- 55. Reporter's question
- 58. Is in Paris

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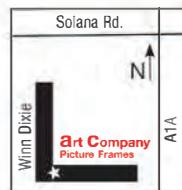
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Foundation

Continued from 28

of federal cancer research funding goes to studying pediatric cancer. The Kate Amato Foundation hopes to garner more support by organizing fundraising tournaments such as the recent Kate Klassic Golf Tournament and Kate's Kup Triples Tennis Tournament in April.

The Amatos believe this year's golf tournament was a success.

"Because of the tremendous support of Cary Hart and the staff at the Aqua Grill, the amazing staff at Marsh Landing, more than 50 volunteers and our beloved and committed supporters, we turned a rainy weekend into an extremely successful fundraising effort for the foundation," Lisa and Jeff Amato said together.

To learn more about ways to give or find information about the upcoming Kate's Kup Triples Tennis Tournament at The Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass, call (904) 629-8300 or email info@kateamatofoundation.org.

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Business Weekly

PAGE 35 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018

Health Partners lends helping hand during holiday open house

Page 38

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Mary Sneed and Ryan Myers show off Hive Alive Honey Brews flavors.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Local brewer Hive Alive Honey Brews introduces craft kombucha drink 'Jun Soda'

By Amber Lake

Kombucha is a recently developed health food phenomenon — the strange effervescent beverage gaining enough popularity that it has moved from the corners of wellness grocery store and begun to emerge at local neighborhood supermarkets.

Local Ponte Vedra brewer, Hive Alive Honey Brews, has found itself a special niche in this movement toward

healthier soda alternatives. That special niche is called “Jun.”

Mary Sneed, the co-founder of Hive Alive Honey Brews, said that Jun uses a similar type of culture as regular kombucha but is generally more palatable and less sour. Her local company is one of the few companies to carry the type nationwide.

“It’s considered the champagne of kombucha because it has a softer, milder taste,” Sneed said. “When we

started thinking about doing this, we bought every kombucha off the shelf and tasted it. We didn’t like it. We like to think of Jun as being the fun, attractive sister in the kombucha family.”

Kombucha has been made famous mainly due to its fermentation process and identifiable live culture, known as SCOBY, which stands for Symbiotic Culture of Bacteria and Yeast. This

KOMBUCHA continues on Page 36

Recession: A natural part of the business cycle, albeit painful



Harry Pappas
Columnist

By Harry Pappas

Before I begin my rant — I mean commentary — regarding the subject title, allow me to provide you with a brief, educational summary regarding recession 101.

The technical definition of a recession is two consecutive quarters of negative economic growth as measured by a country’s gross domestic product (GDP), although the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) does not necessarily need to see this occur to call it a recession. Perhaps stated more simply, a recession is a significant decline in economic activity that goes on for more than a few months. As an interesting side note, the economy comes out of recession when it begins to rise, not when it has regained lost ground. Are you with me? Good job, student! Now that the boring academic material is out of the way, let us move on to a more interesting perspective.

Although the U.S. economy is firing on all cylinders, the talk of the next recession is in the air again. I hope that you are emotionally ready, because a recession is on its way. Whoop-de-doo! Pul-lease! There is always a recession coming, but nobody and I mean nobody knows when and for how long it will last. Therefore, all the gnashing of teeth about the next recession is a huge waste of time, especially if you believe as I do that the future exists to keep forecasters humble!

PAPPAS continues on Page 38

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach awarded Distinguished Club Status for second time

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach recently announced that it has been awarded the Distinguished Club award for a second year, as determined by the annual Distinguished Clubs award program conducted by BoardRoom magazine.

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach is the only private equity residential community in Northeast Florida to hold this status.

BoardRoom magazine’s entirely merit-based Distinguished Clubs award program uses a club-specific rating system that recognizes the club, its manage-

ment and its staff based on proprietary criteria and an evaluation process that distills and measures a club’s member experience. As a result, the rating system used by Distinguished Clubs is unique, and the private club industry now has the means to identify the top private clubs based on member experience.

“We are thrilled to be recognized for a second year as one of the top private communities in America,” The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach General Manager Rob Schlingmann said. “I thank all of the efforts of the staff and membership that assisted us to achieve this goal.”



Photo courtesy of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach

The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach is the recipient of the Distinguished Club award for a second year.




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Kombucha

Continued from 35

culture can sometimes be seen as a slight film in over-the-counter bottles. It is also what is believed to give the drink its probiotic health benefits.

Sneed believes the drink helps with many aspects of health like indigestion, inflammation and even weight loss. Because of that, and after two years of drinking it regularly, she just “feels better overall.”

Besides using an obscure cousin of the kombucha SCOBY, Hive Alive Honey Brews also uses green tea and honey as an alternative to most recipes’ black tea and sugar bases.

Two years ago, when the company released its first five flavors, Hive Alive Honey Brews tested Groovy Grape, Pineapple Turmeric, Lemon Ginger, Tangerine Cream and Simply Jun. The flavors tested so well with their friends and family, Sneed said, they were quickly adapted to consumers. More recently, they included the additions of Cherry Limeade, Blueberry Hibiscus and the holiday seasonal, Cranberry Cinnamon Apple.

Because of its seasonal release, Cranberry Cinnamon Apple is only sold from kegs at all three Native Sun Food Markets in Jacksonville. Bottles can be found at Lucky’s Market and both Earth Fare food stores in Jacksonville as well. For more information on Hive Alive Honey Brews visit www.honeybrews.com.



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Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosts Chamber 'After Hours'

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosted an "After Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach (PVB) Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 28.

Held at the local business' office at 205 Marketside Ave., Suite 200, the event featured networking and beverages and snacks. Ponte Vedra Wellness Center also collected toys for Toys for Tots at the event.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Chamber representatives gather with the Ponte Vedra Wellness Center team at the "After Hours" event on Nov. 28.



Kari Zerrahn, Cindy Reis and Nancy Hallett



Toni Boudreaux Godwin, Dr. Erika Hamer and Isabelle Renault address attendees of the event.



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LOCAL KNOWLEDGE TO GLOBAL MARKETING



Photos by Susan Griffin

The Health Partners LLC team gathers at their Dec. 7 holiday open house and pop-up shop featuring items made by survivors of human trafficking and extreme poverty.

Health Partners hosts holiday open house with Rethreaded, Twig & Vine Co.

Health Partners, a functional medicine practice in Ponte Vedra Beach, hosted an open house event on Dec. 7 that featured a holiday pop-up shop with items made by survivors of human trafficking and extreme poverty.

Some of these items came from Rethreaded, a Jacksonville-based entrepreneurship that is attempting to break the cycle of the sex trade by offering viable and creative work to those affected by the industry. Locally, Rethreaded provides a three month on-site job training program for women in the Jacksonville area who are coming out of lives of addiction, violence, human trafficking and prostitution.

Globally, Rethreaded operates as a distribution company that sells products made by women from all over the world who have found freedom from the sex trade. The organization offers everything from its "grace scarves" to handmade bags, jewelry, handmade quilts and more. Twenty-five percent of the supplement purchases made at Health Partners during the open house benefitted Rethreaded. For more information, visit www.rethreaded.com.

The open house also featured items from Twig & Vine Co., a social enterprise jewelry collection designed to break the cycles of poverty within some of the world's more disadvantaged communities. The organization is working to employ marginalized woman at fair trade wages to break the cycle of poverty for themselves and their families.

Each Twig & Vine purchase helps to provide vocational training, life skill classes, wellness training, a safe place to stay and nourishing meals for those in the Orphan Transition Program. Currently, the program hosts five ladies, each transitioning out of traditional orphan care. These ladies have survived human trafficking, abuse and extreme poverty.



Toni Boudreaux-Godwin checks out the Twig & Vine Co. items in the pop-up shop.



Displayed are items from Rethreaded that were available for purchase at the open house event.

Visit twigandvine.net for more information.

Located at 100 Executive Way, Suite 100, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Health Partners LLC provides area residents with a relationship-focused option that staff members say bridges the gap between traditional, prescription-based primary care and alternative treatment. The practice's goal is to create a patient-provider relationship, see every person as an individual and develop a protocol for every individual that is personalized to their needs. Visit www.healthpartnersllc.net for more information.

Golf-Tech, Inc. receives 2018 Best of Ponte Vedra Award

Golf-Tech, Inc., the parent company of Power Tee, has been selected for the 2018 Best of Ponte Vedra Award in the Wholesale Distribution category by the Ponte Vedra Award Program.

Each year, the Ponte Vedra Award Program identifies companies that have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and the community.

Various sources of information were gathered and analyzed to choose the winners in each category. The 2018 Ponte Vedra Award Program focuses on quality, not quantity. Winners are determined based on the information gathered both

internally by the Ponte Vedra Award Program and data provided by third parties.

Based in Ponte Vedra, Power Tee is an internationally patented automatic practice system that makes practicing golf more efficient, effective and fun. Power Tee was created by Ponte Vedra resident Martin Wyeth and endorsed by U.S. Open Champion, 2018 U.S. Ryder Cup Captain and Ponte Vedra resident Jim Furyk, as well as 2018 European Ryder Cup Captain Thomas Bjorn and golf coach Mitchell Spearman. The system operates in 18 countries and can be found at many of the world's most prestigious golf clubs, such as St. Andrews, the Belfry, Dromoland Castle and Le Golf National. Visit www.powertee.com for more information.

Pappas

Continued from 35

I understand why investors are confused, as it appears that every day, heavily credentialed experts are declaring the next recession or market crash is right around the corner, while at the same time, equally credentialed whizzes are foretelling a stock market boom is upon us. Which camp is right? Flip a coin! Folks, I encourage you, no I beg you, not to participate in the silly and unprofitable game of forecasting the next economic activity. It is a loser's game! Over and out!

Whether the recession begins in a couple of weeks or a couple of years, it is coming, so let us please not be surprised when it rears its ugly head. Recessions are a natural part of the business cycle and we should accept it, warts and all! If you follow my methodology of implementing a professionally managed, diversified, prudent and cost-effective portfolio, I believe we should be just fine riding out the next recession.

Do you remember when the last recession was? If you said it was 2008-09, bingo! Do you remember how long the recession lasted? Eighteen months, which was the longest recession in history, and the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression! Do you recall how it felt when it looked like our financial world was ending? I bet you do, just like me. It was brutal. It was scary! It was frustrating! Here we are, a decade later and the stock market has accomplished what it has always done, moved higher over time while setting record highs. In the final analysis, most investors are happy that they stayed the course by riding out the storm.

History of Recessions in the United States (from www.thebalance.com)

1945 Recession	8 months
1949 Recession	11

1953 Recession	10
1957 Recession	8
1960 Recession	10
1970 Recession	11
1973-1975 Recession	16
1980 Recession	7
1982 Recession	16
1990-1991 Recession	8
2001 Recession	8
2008-2009 Recession	18

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Heather Douglas, Alaina Record and Carling Povtak gather at an exclusive realtor preview for the new Dostie Homes model in Heritage Trace at Crosswater in Nocatee on Dec. 4.

Photo by Susan Griffin



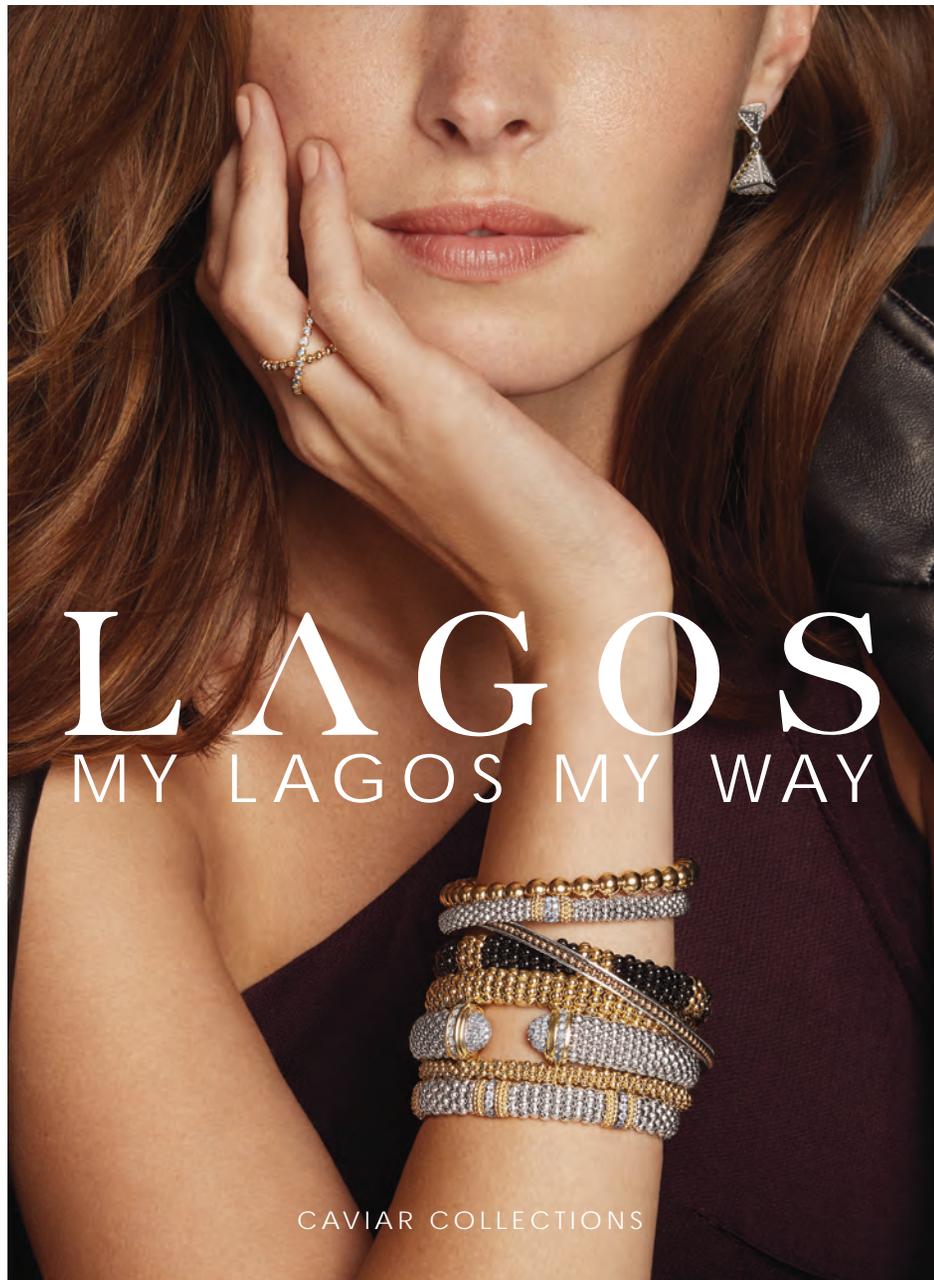
Nocatee hosts realtor preview of new Dostie model in Heritage Trace at Crosswater

Local realtors recently had the chance to view the new Dostie Homes model in Heritage Trace at Crosswater in Nocatee.

The exclusive realtor preview was held Dec. 4 and included lunch provided by the builder.

Heritage Trace at Crosswater features 188 homesites surrounded by preservation and

lake views. In addition to Dostie Homes, other builders in the neighborhood include CalAtlantic Homes, David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes and Riverside Homes. Homes in Heritage Trace range in size from 1,900 square feet to more than 3,200 square feet and start in the mid \$300s. Visit Nocatee.com for more information.



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608 IBIS COVE LN.



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1800 THE GREENS WAY #706



This lovely 2BD, 2BA condo in The Villas at Marsh Landing features updated bathrooms, kitchen, brand new carpet and new interior paint. You'll love spending evenings on your large screened balcony! **MLS# 959949 / \$169,950**

210 DEER COLONY LN.



Located in Marsh Landing, this amazing private vacant lot features 2.61 acres surrounded by majestic live oaks, magnolias, palms & a pond. Boat slips are available for purchase within this beautiful gated golf community. **MLS# 965383 / \$690,000**

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Jacksonville Symphony to present performances of First Coast Nutcracker and Handel's Messiah

Holiday classics, The First Coast Nutcracker and Handel's Messiah will be performed with the Jacksonville Symphony this month.

A production that has been enchanting Jacksonville for more than 40 years, the Jacksonville Symphony's First Coast Nutcracker will be performed on Dec. 14-16. This is the only performance of "The Nutcracker" in the area with a full, live symphony orchestra. In total, there are 350 different costumes seen through-

out the performance. With world-class artists and a 15-foot Nutcracker tree in the lobby, the event presents entertainment in and out of the theater.

Once again, the ballet has been choreographed by Rhonda Stampalia, who has been the artistic director/choreographer for the First Coast Nutcracker since 1998.

Performances for the First Coast Nutcracker will be at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, and

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16 in the Jim and Jan Moran Theater at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

Handel's Messiah, thought to be "the greatest story ever told ... the most majestic music ever conceived," will be presented by the Jacksonville Symphony and Symphony Chorus Dec. 15-16.

The performances are 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16 in the Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

Jacksonville Symphony Associate Conductor Nathan Aspinall will lead both performances of Messiah.

The Jacksonville Symphony Chorus, under the direction of Donald McCullough, is an all-volunteer group of individuals from all walks of life who have a love of singing choral music. The 100 members must audition to participate.

For more information about the upcoming performances or the symphony, visit JaxSymphony.org.

CMA Awards 'Duo of the Year' Brothers Osborne live at St. Augustine Amphitheatre

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will present three-time CMA Awards' "Vocal Duo of the Year" Brothers Osborne to the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on March 2.

Brothers Osborne recently announced a major extension of their headlining world tour into early next year. The duo kicks off in Chicago on Jan. 10 and will hit more than 40 additional markets including New York, Los Angeles, Nashville and St. Augustine.

Two sons from a working-class family, John and TJ Osborne grew up in a small Maryland water town writing and playing songs for friends and family in their father's shed. John Osborne moved to Nashville first to play in other bands and two years later, TJ Osborne joined him. It was then they formed Brothers Osborne as a twang-and-crunch duo that blends equal parts country and rock one of the most identifiable sounds to come out of Nashville in recent years.

The singer/songwriter siblings recently earned back-to-back ACM Vocal Duo of the Year Awards along with ACM Music Video of the Year for their Top 10, GRAMMY-nominated single, "It Ain't My Fault." The award-winning video also stands as the current CMA Music Video of the Year. Brothers Osborne also currently reigns as the two-time CMA Vocal Duo of the Year. Brothers Osborne's debut album, *Pawn Shop*, was released



Photo courtesy of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Brothers John and TJ Osborne will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre March 2.

Jan. of 2016 and was recently certified Gold by the RIAA. *Pawn Shop* features three GRAMMY-nominated tracks including "It Ain't My Fault," the Platinum Certified No. 1 smash hit "Stay A Little Longer," as well as Top 25 hit "21 Summer". They just released their sophomore album, *Port Saint Joe*, in April and had a recent hit with the single "Shoot Me Straight".

Their new single, "I Don't Remember Me (Before You)" is currently on radio. Brothers Osborne has previously toured with Chris Stapleton, Eric Church, Little Big Town, Miranda

Lambert and more.

This past summer they toured with Dierks Bentley after coming back from a sold-out headlining tour in the UK.

Tickets for Brothers Osborne with guest Ruston Kelly are on sale at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box offices. Save on fees by purchasing tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre or Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Offices. Tickets also will be available at ticketmaster.com or by phone at (800) 745-3000. For more information on ticket pricing go to www.staugamphitheatre.com.

Apex Theatre Studio sponsoring Festival of Trees Dec. 13-15 at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Event aims to help provide supplies to area food pantries

The Apex Theatre Studio is sponsoring its inaugural Festival of Trees event to make the halls of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall merry and bright while gathering much needed supplies for local food pantries. The event will take place Dec. 13-15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

"We are having a blast putting this together," said Ian Mairs, managing director of the Apex Theatre Studio Inc. which is presenting the stage adaptation of "A Christmas Story," based on the beloved classic film featuring Ralphie and his friends the weekend of the festival.

Local businesses have taken on a tree to decorate with a particular theme or twist. Visitors are asked to come and check out the rows of trees installed in the inner lobby and vote for their favorite tree by placing a canned good or non-perishable item under the selected tree.

"This is our third year of producing holiday programs in this wonderfully intimate venue. We wanted to offer support to local food banks as the winter approaches," Mairs said. "We have a delightful selection of entries which include a Rock and Roll tree sponsored by the Friends of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, a tree with a nautical theme rendered by the St. Augustine Lighthouse, and a Harry Potter themed tree created by the faculty of the Apex Theatre Studio."

Visit www.apextheatrejax.com for more information.

Sports

Send us your sports news to
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018 · PAGE 41

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Photos by Jeff Heinemann/theimagecaddy.com

Nease players and fans storm the court after the Panthers defeated Ponte Vedra 57-48 in the "Battle of the Bridge" on Dec. 7.

Nease tops Ponte Vedra in Battle of the Bridge' rivalry

By Jim Moyes

Special to the Recorder

Playing before another full house at the Nease gymnasium for their traditional "Battle of the Bridge" rivalry, the host Nease Panthers stunned their visiting neighbors from Ponte Vedra High with a 57-48 win Friday, Dec. 7.

A zone defense with man-to-man principles, a very patient offense and some sensational shooting highlighted the Nease victory. Yet another plus in the Nease win was some deadly marksmanship from the free-throw line, including a stretch in which the Panthers converted on 16 straight free-throw attempts.

The Sharks were far off form from their previous night's well-played game against Palatka, but much of the credit goes to the Panthers and their coach Josh Bailen, who employed a zone defense that forced the Sharks to make their shots from outside the paint.

While the Panthers singed the nets at a 60 percent clip, the Sharks made only 6 of their 20 attempts from 3-point land, coupled with a woeful 2 of 9 at the free-throw line.

Energized by a large turnout of vociferous Nease High students, the Panthers' zone defense completely befuddled Shark shooters as they took an 8-3 lead following the low scoring first quarter.

The Sharks rallied in the second stanza to trail 21-20 at halftime. When Luke Martin netted a 3-point shot from the corner early into the third quarter, the Sharks took their first lead in the contest. That lead was short-lived as Nease went on an 11-0 run with big blows being a pair of 3-pointers from Panthers junior guard Kyle Baidas.



Nease guard Kyle Baidas brings the ball down the court for the Panthers. He led all scorers with 17 points.

The Sharks again rallied after trailing by as many as 10 points and would eventually catch and briefly pass the Panthers. Jacobi Myers' 3-pointer midway through the final quarter put the Sharks narrowly on top of Nease at 39-38. Corban Anderson, the 6-foot-6-inch center, countered, however, by putting Nease back in front with a pair of layups.

Sharks kick off wrestling season

Ponte Vedra opened its wrestling season Dec. 5 with a 47-30 loss on Bartram Trail's home mat.

New Ponte Vedra head coach Josean Gonzalez is not able to field a full lineup without wrestlers at 106 and 195 pounds and at heavyweight. Therefore, the Sharks are required to forfeit 18 points to each of their opponents. When tabulating the cumulative scores of the matches that were wrestled at Bartram Trail, Ponte Vedra actually wrestled to a winning 30-29 score. Pinning for the varsity team were Troy Maritato, Preston Turner, Alex de Almeida, Joseph Skinner and Ethan Baur.

In addition, the junior varsity Sharks were also solid, winning three out of four matches. Winning for the young Sharks were Will Lazzara, Austin Schottel and James Richie.

On Dec. 8, the Sharks competed at the annual Terry Parker High School Optimist Tournament. Preston Turner and Ethan Baur won individual championships at 120 pounds and 152 pounds respectively. Baur pinned his way through the tournament, earning his crown with four falls during the two-day tournament.

James Richie, Alex de Almeida, Jackson Shewey and Rett Maritato all made it to the consolation finals in the team's first tournament of the season. Overall, Ponte Vedra placed sixth in the 11-team tournament.

The Sharks matched up against Bishop Kenny at the Shark Tank on Wednesday, Dec. 12, which took place after this edition of the Recorder went to the printer.



Photo by TJ Baur

Ponte Vedra's Ethan Baur wins the Terry Parker Optimist Tournament on Dec. 8 at the 149-pound weight class by pinning his way through the entire tournament.



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Photo courtesy of Jane Rollinson

The TPC Sawgrass 2018 cup team gathers after defeating Sawgrass Country Club in the annual Sawgrass Cup Tournament Dec. 7-8.

TPC Sawgrass beats Sawgrass Country Club in Sawgrass Cup Tournament

TPC Sawgrass was victorious over Sawgrass Country Club in the annual Sawgrass Cup Tournament Dec. 7-8.

Sawgrass Country Club hosted the event with an opening dinner held Dec. 6 at their clubhouse. The format for the tournament was four ball match play with each two-person team (28 teams) being awarded one point for winning each nine holes and overall for a total of three possible points per match. After the

first day's match on Dye's Valley Course, the score was tied. On day two, TPC Sawgrass edged Sawgrass Country Club by one point on their East/West Course.

The Sawgrass Cup Tournament began in 2004. Sawgrass Country Club has won the tournament nine times, compared to TPC Sawgrass winning it six times. The 2017 tournament ended in a tie, allowing Sawgrass Country Club to retain the Cup.

JAGA names 2018 award winners

The Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA) recently announced its award winners for 2018. The following people were honored for their contributions to JAGA and golf, in general, in North Florida:

Club Executive of the Year: Greg Sheara (Timuquana Country Club)

Community Service Award: Jeff Willoughby (The First Tee of North Florida)



Photo courtesy of Jeff Adams

Duke Butler III stands with golf great Jack Nicklaus. Representing TPC Sawgrass, Butler was honored by JAGA as the Director of the Year.

Director of the Year: Duke Butler III (TPC Sawgrass)

JAGA continues on Page 43

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JAGA

Continued from 42

Earl Kelly Longtime Service Award: Tom Dudley (Timuquana Country Club)

Professional of the Year: Ray Barr Jr. (Jacksonville Golf & Country Club)

The honorees will be recognized at the "Celebration of Golf" banquet in February, which is co-sponsored by JAGA and the Northern Chapter of the North Florida

PGA. Details of the banquet will be announced in January.

"As JAGA winds down its 65th year, it is a privilege to spotlight these five individuals who have made many valuable contributions to JAGA over the last 12 months," JAGA president Don Gilmore said. "Each has helped make 2018 a year of growth and progress for our organization. We can't thank them enough for all they've done. We look forward to publicly honoring them at the banquet in February."



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Nease's Victory Day a big win for all involved

Panthers host third annual event for special-needs students from area schools

By Paris Moulden

The Nease football team held its third annual Victory Day on Friday, Dec. 7, as the Panthers invited 84 students with special needs from four area elementary schools — Cunningham Creek, Wards Creek, Timberlin Creek and Valley Ridge Academy — to participate in drills, eat lunch with the team and score some touchdowns.

While Nease players and coaches taught the young students the basics of passing, tackling, kicking and running routes, it's what the students teach the team that makes the event so special, said Nease coach Tim Krause.

"For our kids to interact with people who go through life with different challenges than the average high school kid I think is impactful for them," Krause said. "I hope it's something they'll carry with them through life when they graduate high school, that they'll have a heart for service and a heart for people who have disabilities or challenges."

Krause suggested the event to the school several years ago after finding out about similar events taking place at a few schools in Michigan. The athletic department and the district office at Nease were very much on board with the idea.

"They've just been a huge help getting everything set up with the teachers and the schools," Krause said, "and each year over the three years, we've made it a lot larger, and hopefully been able to impact more kids."

Krause said he was also inspired by school employees who work with the kids nearly every day.

"I love seeing how compassionate the people who work with these children are," he said. "The teachers, how much heart they have for these kids, and what they do for them on a daily basis is the part that always blows me away."

The event also made an impact on the Jacksonville Jaguars, who decided to show their support for Krause's endeavor. Former NFL player Marcus Pollard, who currently serves as director of player development and youth football for the Jaguars, attended the event to cheer on his 10-year-old daughter, Ayris, and to surprise Krause with two tickets to Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta.

"We got together as the youth football staff for the Jaguars and decided we wanted to award two tickets, not just to a coach who has won a state championship or did some things in the community, but we thought this had a special interest," Pollard said. "It's not just because I have a special needs daughter, but to see the impact that he's making on special needs kids, and the excitement they have here."

Pollard also got to help his daughter score a touchdown to the cheers of the crowd. The former Colts tight end said while the event was recognized for its impact on the community and kids with special needs in the area, it was particularly special to him as a parent.



Students with special needs from four area elementary schools compete in tackling drills with Nease football players during the third annual Victory Day at Nease on Dec. 7.



ABOVE: Nease coach Tim Krause (left) shakes hands with Jaguars Director of Player Development and Youth Football Marcus Pollard after Pollard surprised Krause with two tickets to the Super Bowl.

RIGHT: Pollard's 10-year-old daughter, Ayris, celebrates after scoring a touchdown at the Victory Day event.



"Personally, it means the world to me," Pollard said. "I don't often get a chance to experience her extracurricular activities, and to be a part of this and being a former football player, to see my daughter out here engaging in a sport that I played for such a long time is very rewarding and exciting."



Photos by Paris Moulden

Elementary school students get help from Nease football players during passing drills at the event.

Krause said he didn't expect the recognition but appreciated the gesture.

"I was pretty shocked," he said. "It was terribly generous that they do that for the community, and I'm really honored that they picked us and our program."

While the event is primarily about giving the young students a chance to have fun and let loose, Nease's players also get the chance to score some extra points in their coach's eyes.

"I think it's a great opportunity for both our kids and for the participants," Krause said. "I think the kids who come from the elementary schools have a great time and they get out of school and get to run around. And for me as a coach, I get to see the heart that our kids have and how generous they can be. They put down the cool high-school guy persona for a while, and it just reminds you so much what great kids they are."

Battle

Continued from 41

The key play of the game came after Ben Houser's steal and layup brought the Sharks within a point with 2:35 showing on the clock.

Nease's Payton MacDonald calmly connected on a 3-pointer right in front of the jubilant Nease bench to make it a two-pos-

session lead at 47-43 with 2:10 left in the game. Ironically, the game's biggest basket was the only shot attempted by MacDonald in the entire game.

The Sharks' Reese Russi brought the Sharks within two when he made one of his patented driving layups, but Nease guard Zachary Fifield put a dagger in the Sharks' hearts when he followed with an old-fashioned 3-pointer, scoring on a left-handed layup and adding the free throw.

The Panthers then cashed in their foul shots to preserve their lead, and when the final horn sounded, the Nease student body rushed onto the floor to congratulate their jubilant classmates.

Baidas led all scorers with 17 points. Matt Guzie and Anderson were also in double figures for the Panthers with 10 points each. Fifield chipped in eight. The victory evened the Panthers' record at 3-3, the same record as the Sharks.

Ben Houser and Reese Russi led the Sharks in scoring with 16 and 14 points respectively.

Logan Conway chipped in with eight points and four steals in a losing cause, while point guard Johnny Corlazzoli had a game-high five assists.

Local fans will have to wait a while before the rematch. The two rivals will not meet again until the final game of the regular season on Feb. 8 at Ponte Vedra High.

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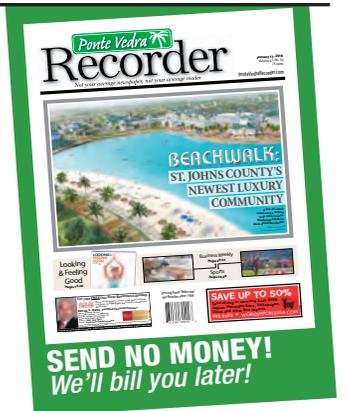
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