

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

January 17, 2019
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75 cents

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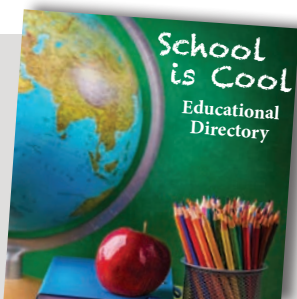
PVHS soccer players join forces with area nonprofit to share love of game with area refugees from around the world

Photo courtesy of Rebecca Burchell

Ponte Vedra High School soccer players and refugee players from the All Nations Soccer League participate in a soccer friendly on Saturday, Jan. 5, with the help of Kim's Open Door, an area nonprofit. **For more on the soccer scrimmage, go to page 12.**

School is Cool

Pages 17-24



Get Organized

Pages 29-32

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In the Arts

Pages 33-34



CAR OF THE WEEK

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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.

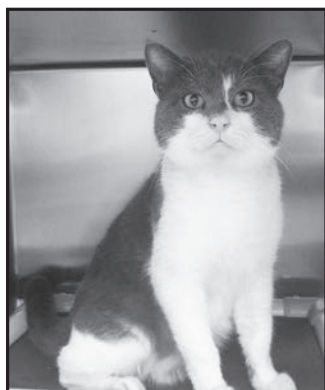
Eleven readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Aunt Kate's. The winner of the random drawing was **Danny Bowe**. Congratulations, Danny — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Mango is a 4-year-old male cat who was brought to the Pet Center as a stray, which means there may be some



traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit Mango at the Pet Center today. #48214



DOG OF THE WEEK

Rascal is a small Labrador terrier mix male dog who was released by his owners. He has lots of energy. Because he is an owner release, there may be some traits that

are unknown at this time. Come visit Rascal at the Pet Center today. #48286

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

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| 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 | | | |

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

January ZOO DEALS



Enjoy deals all month long, including discounted admission, free prizes, member specials, and more!

JACKSONVILLE ZOO AND GARDENS

Find details at www.jacksonvillezoo.org



The Perfect Beach Escape

Las Mirandas / Oceanfront Condo
 Located between The Lodge and the Cabana Beach Club, this second-story condo gives elevated views of the beach while maintaining the unit's privacy and security. Includes a large covered balcony and ground floor storage. **3 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms \$1,625,000**



Turnkey Beach Condo

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



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



Waterfront Oasis

Ideally located in Old Ponte Vedra on a lagoon, this home's backyard offers a private oasis complete with a summer kitchen, gas fire pit, and pool. No HOA and only a short distance to the Lodge and Club and Beach. **3 bedrooms, 3 baths \$1,695,000**

UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County to hold giveaway of tree seedlings Jan. 18 in honor of Arbor Day

In observance of Florida's Arbor Day, UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Master Gardeners will be giving away tree seedlings on Friday, Jan. 18, at 8:30 a.m., at the following locations: Southeast Branch Library, Bartram Trail Library, Hastings Library, Publix at Murabella and Publix at Nocatee.

Species include river birch, shagbark hickory, dahoon holly, wild black cherry, American snowbell, winged elm, Southern red cedar, elderberry and arrowwood viburnum.

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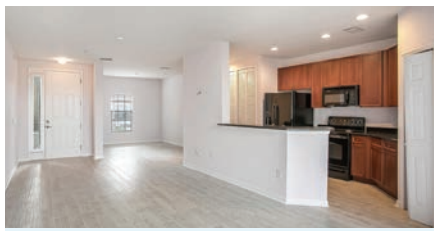
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COLLECTION



AVILA CONDO @ PALENCIA

315 Via Castilla #102, St. Augustine, FL
\$138,500 | MLS 959524
 Missy DeKay | 904.613.2445
 MissyDeKay@watsonrealtycorp.com



EDGEWATER @ SUNBEAM

9730 Osprey Landing Ct., Jacksonville, FL
\$269,700 | MLS 967655
 Patti Mohr | 904.813.4430
 PattiMohr@watsonrealtycorp.com



SEVILLA

619 Porto Cristo Ave., St. Augustine, FL
\$294,990 | MLS 941499
 Jim Zeller | 904.772.5592
 JimZeller@watsonrealtycorp.com



RIVERSIDE

2050 Myra St., Jacksonville, FL
\$309,900 | MLS 960606
 Megan Brunette | 904.495.2535
 MBrunette@watsonrealtycorp.com



SAWMILL LAKES

844 Sawyer Run Ln., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
\$328,000 | MLS 948845
 Kristina McCurry | 904.616.4245
 KMcCurry@watsonrealtycorp.com



BLACKWOOD COVE

4981 Lindion Ct., Jacksonville, FL
\$415,000 | MLS 971085
 Carol Manning | 904.803.7729
 CLight@watsonrealtycorp.com



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 Like us on Facebook! Facebook.com/WatsonPonteVedra





Photo courtesy of the USO

The USO hosts its weekly Healthy Military Families Food Initiative on Tuesday, Jan. 15, which provided support to those affected by the partial government shutdown.

Government shutdown motivates community organizations to rally around those impacted

By Amber Lake

As the partial government shutdown staggers into day 27, the local community is looking to shelter federal workers from the effects of the longest shutdown in history.

One of the biggest organizations impacted is Jacksonville's Coast Guard sector, which includes 540 Coast Guard personnel and 160 of 230 civilian employees who have been furloughed within District 7, according to Ryan Dickenson, Coast Guard Petty Officer Third Class.

Dec. 31 marked the date of the last paycheck received by Coast Guard personal, he said. Even though they haven't been paid, the organization continues to secure the region's coasts.

"Coast Guard uniformed personnel will continue to perform their duties and will provide essential services such as search and rescue, port and homeland safety and security, law enforcement and environmental response," Dickenson said. "The Coast Guard members continue to work diligently and faithfully during this time of uncertainty."

Partially due to the ambiguity of the shutdown's resolution, many workers have become unsure of their ability to provide necessities. Some are even going so far as to question their ability to put food on the table. Several community organizations have stepped up to the plate, however.

BEAM, the Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry, has been working in conjunction with the United Service Organizations (USO) and Feeding Northeast Florida to provide food and financial assistance for those affected. The USO is a distribution point for assistance along

with BEAM's two food pantries locations in Jacksonville Beach and Atlantic Beach (Mayport). BEAM has doubled their food pantry assistance for those affected, who are now able to get supplies such as meats, dry goods and fresh vegetables twice a month from their locations.

BEAM is also in the process of opening their rent and utility assistance program for those in need.

"We are putting things in place to add access to that for people who live or work at the beach," said Lori Richards, executive director of BEAM. "Which would of course include covering our Coast Guard families or anyone else who might be a sub-contractor who might be impacted by the shutdown."

This past Tuesday, Jan. 15, the USO in Jacksonville held the Healthy Military Families Food Initiative, which fed 7,500 meals to 125 families. The USO said it plans on continuing this service weekly until the "situation is resolved," according to Megan DeGance, the marketing director for the USO.

The USO is asking for help with donating specific items such as baby food, diapers, pet food and \$10 or \$20 gift cards to Publix, Winn-Dixie or Walmart. The organization also asks that cash donations be payable to the USO Jacksonville, due to the military being unable to accept direct donations.

In addition to BEAM, the USO and Feeding Northeast Florida, the Florida Theatre has opened its doors to any furloughed employees. Both the "Earth's Prehistoric Aquarium: The Mystery of the Dinosaurs of the Deep" on Jan. 20 at 1 p.m. and "Arlo

SJSO deputy arrested on charge of lewd and lascivious molestation

According to a press release from the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office (SJSO), members of the SJSO Special Victims Unit (SVU) arrested a SJSO deputy sheriff last week, following an investigation into lewd and lascivious behavior that allegedly occurred several years ago.

The deputy in question is Jeffrey Lewis Cook, 51, of St. Augustine.

Per the release, Sheriff David Shoar was notified late Thursday, Jan. 10, of a victim, concerning a series of events where the suspect had inappropriately touched her over the course of six years while she was a juvenile. According to SJSO, the last contact occurred nearly 10 years ago. Shoar summoned detectives with the Special Victims Unit to investigate the allegations.

SJSO said investigators met with the victim and conducted an interview, which continued into Friday morning. Detectives contacted the deputy, identified as Cook, and advised him of the criminal complaint against him. An interview was subsequently conducted

with Cook at the SJSO office, which led to his arrest. Shoar terminated Cook's employment as SVU detectives were placing him under arrest. Cook was a 17-year employee of SJSO.

"Anyone who has heard me speak on these types of crimes knows that I value our children, as well as seniors, as our highest priority for protection," Shoar said in the press release. "I am both angry and saddened by these events, and while this incident involves one individual, it is not reflective of our agency or this honorable profession. As we have in the past, we will continue to police ourselves and hold our people accountable to ensure we maintain the highest standards of our profession."

Currently, Cook is charged with one count of lewd and lascivious molestation. SVU detectives are continuing their investigation into the allegations against Cook. Although there are no indications of any other victims, anyone with additional information is asked to contact Detective Sgt. George Harrigan at (904) 209-2443.

OBITUARIES

Richard Paul Byers

Richard Paul Byers, 72, of Jacksonville, died Jan. 13, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Robert Franklin Cole

Robert Franklin Cole, 85, of Jacksonville Beach, died Jan. 14, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Wilma Jean Corbitt

Wilma Jean Corbitt, 80, of Jacksonville Beach, died Jan. 8, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Lynsi Nicole Farrell

Lynsi Nicole Farrell, 32, died Jan. 7, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

Mary Finch

Mary Finch, 93, of Jacksonville, died Jan. 12, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Modesto Martinez-Albelo

Modesto Martinez-Albelo, 95, of Jacksonville, died Jan. 11, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Pastor Joseph "Steve" McCoy

Pastor Joseph "Steve" McCoy, 66, of Jacksonville Beach, died Jan. 8, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Charles B. Mitzel

Charles B. Mitzel, 72, of Jacksonville Beach, died Jan. 8, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

Kevin Bradley Montfort

Kevin Bradley Montfort, 37, of Jacksonville, died Jan. 5, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, a Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Erin Chandler Rivera

Erin Chandler Rivera, 34, of St. Johns, died Jan. 13, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

THE PLAYERS announces Jon Pardi as headline act for Military Appreciation Day Concert March 12

With less than 60 days remaining before THE PLAYERS Championship, tournament officials announced this week that a special performance by country music artist Jon Pardi will headline Military Appreciation Day on Tuesday, March 12.

New this year, the Military Appreciation Day Ceremony will begin at 5 p.m., and the concert will kick off at 5:30 p.m. on the Island Green 17th hole. The Military Appreciation Day ceremony and concert is free to any Tuesday ticket holder; a Tuesday Stadium Pass starts at \$25. Parking is also free on Tuesday and Wednesday of tournament week.

Pardi joins an impressive list of country music stars who have performed on Military Appreciation Day, including Tim McGraw (2010), Darius Rucker (2011), Luke Bryan (2012), Dierks Bentley (2013), Jake Owen (2014), Big & Rich (2015), Toby Keith (2016), Sam Hunt (2017) and Luke Combs (2018).

"It is a dream come true to perform at THE PLAYERS and on the famous Island Green 17th hole, in front of so many passionate fans and members of the U.S. Armed Forces," Pardi said. "I cannot wait to kick off one of the best sports events in the world with a performance that will get the crowd excited for a great week, while also honoring the men and women who serve our country every day. It's going to be an incredibly special night."

Pardi's Platinum-certified album "California Sunrise" (Capitol Records Nashville) debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Top Country Albums chart, earning him the 2017 CMA New Artist of The Year and ACM New Male Vocalist Of The Year. He was at the top of the country music charts with consecutive No. 1 hits including "Dirt On My Boots," Platinum-selling "Head Over Boots" and "Heartache On The Dance Floor." Pardi is currently touring nationwide with Dierks Bentley's Burning Man Tour and promoting his current single "Night Shift."

"California Sunrise" is the follow up to "Write You A Song" (Capitol Records Nashville), which debuted at No. 3 on Billboard's Top Country Albums chart and yielded Top 10 Gold-selling song "Up All Night," "What I Can't Put Down," "Missin' You Crazy" and "When I've Been



Photo courtesy of THE PLAYERS

A special performance by country music artist Jon Pardi will headline Military Appreciation Day on Tuesday, March 12.

Drinkin" (all co-written by Pardi).

Pardi has toured with country music forerunners, including Eric Church, Dierks Bentley, Luke Bryan, Zac Brown Band and Dwight Yoakam. The West Coast native and fast-rising newcomer received multiple first-ever nominations at the 2017 CMA Awards, CMT Awards, ACM Awards and AMA Awards.

"As the son of a retired Naval master chief, Military Appreciation Day at THE PLAYERS holds a very special place in my heart," said Adam Campbell, THE PLAYERS 2019 tournament chairman. "I am thrilled to have Jon Pardi join us in honoring our men and women of uniform. I know his concert is going to be an amazing experience for everyone involved."

Other military-related events/specials

In addition to Military Appreciation Day, THE PLAYERS provides all career military (active duty, reserve, military retirees and dependents) with complimentary

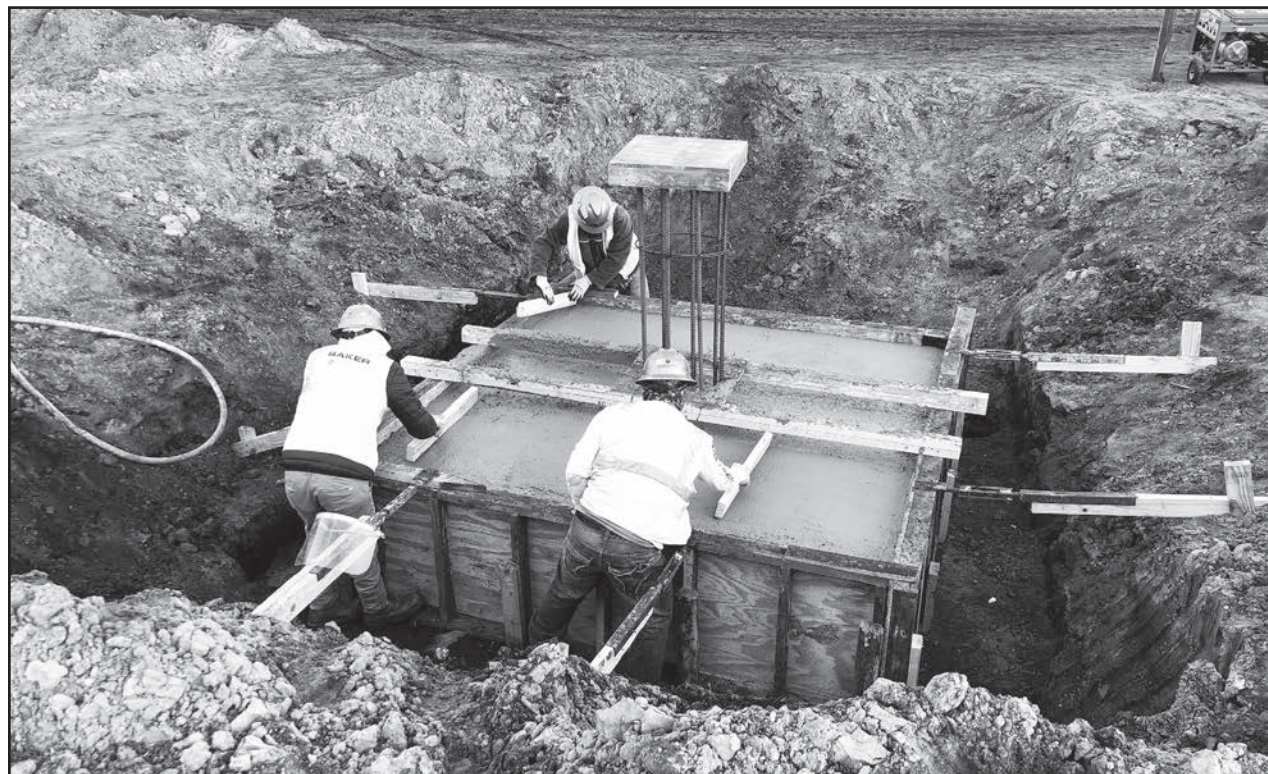
admission to the tournament all week, in addition to discounted admission for veterans. To obtain vouchers, go to THEPLAYERS.com/tickets and click REDEEM in the Military Ticket section. Parking is not included with the free or discounted ticket Thursday through Sunday. All parking on Tuesday and Wednesday is free.

Throughout tournament week, all active duty and reserve military members, military retirees, veterans and their dependents will have access to the Birdies for the Brave® Patriots' Outpost, a hospitality tent reserved exclusively for the military that offers complimentary food, beverages and activities. Located near the tee at No. 16, the Patriots' Outpost is financially supported by THE PLAYERS and Jacksonville-area companies and individuals. United Rentals is the lead sponsor of the Birdies for the Brave® Patriots' Outpost. In 2018, THE PLAYERS issued more than 26,500 complimentary military tickets and hosted more than 22,000 military members and their families in the Patriots' Outpost.

Prior to tournament week, THE PLAYERS will welcome active duty, reserve, retired military, veterans, and military spouses to TPC Sawgrass on Saturday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Birdies for the Brave® Patriots' Outpost to participate in its eighth annual Military Job Fair, in partnership with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition and sponsored by United Rentals. The Military Job Fair is free and open to military personnel, veterans and military spouses who are seeking employment. There will be approximately 50 companies on hand, all with open hiring opportunities.

On Sunday, March 10, THE PLAYERS and Birdies for the Brave® will again partner with Operation Shower to host a private, invite only, group baby shower for 40 military moms-to-be. Scheduled to be held from 12 to 2 p.m. in the Birdies for the Brave® Patriots' Outpost, the event will be sponsored by United Rentals and will feature Operation Shower's signature Shower-In-A-Box, high-quality gifts for the moms and babies provided by sponsors and donors.

THE PLAYERS will be held March 12-17. More information is available at THEPLAYERS.com.



FIRST CONCRETE POUR TAKES PLACE AT SITE OF PGA TOUR GLOBAL HOME

Baker Concrete completes the first concrete pour for the foundation of the PGA TOUR's Global Home earlier this week. Once the concrete work is finished by the end of February, the plan is to then start vertical construction of the company's 187,000-square-foot headquarters facility, which will be located off Palm Valley Road. After completing exterior construction in 2019, the PGA TOUR plans to focus on interior construction of the Global Home in 2020. The company is scheduled to receive its certificate of occupancy in the fourth quarter of 2020. The PGA TOUR then plans to move its 800 employees currently spread out in 17 locations in Ponte Vedra to the new building in the first quarter of 2021.

Photo courtesy of PGA TOUR

Jeremiah Blocker is a recently-elected St. Johns County commissioner representing District 4. He and his family live in Nocatee.

Jeremiah Blocker

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I come from a military background. I joined the Army shortly after 9/11 while I was a student at the University of Florida (UF). At UF, I graduated with a degree in history and commissioned as an Army officer through the Army ROTC program. I served for about 13 years as an Army officer, which included deploying to Iraq as a company commander. After finishing law school at Florida Coastal School of Law, I joined the Air Force Reserves as a Judge Advocate General attorney, where I continue to serve. Other degrees I have earned include a Master of Arts in Military History from Norwich University, Master of Laws from the University of Miami School of Law and Master of Science in Entrepreneurship from the University of Florida.

Currently, I am a partner in private practice with a small firm. I also spent a little over four years as a criminal prosecutor. I serve on several local boards including the American Legion Post 233 in Palm Valley, the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra, the Knights of Columbus, Council #16492 in Nocatee and the Gator Alumni Club of Historic St. Augustine. I also serve on the state board for the Military Order of Foreign Wars. In addition, I am an active member of the St. Johns Bar Association, the St. Augustine Inns of Court, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Military Officer Association of America.

What's a typical day like for you as county commissioner? Or is that such a thing?

So far, no day has been a "typical" day. I dedicate time each day to follow up on concerns and issues that citizens have reached out to me about. I do this through email and phone calls. Also, I dedicate two to three days a week to meet with concerned citizens or different applicants who are bringing matter before the commission. It's important that I am accessible and available to answer questions and concerns of citizens to the best of my ability. In the next several months, I am looking forward to start having office hours in Ponte Vedra where citizens who are not able to make it to the county offices in St. Augustine can schedule time to come in and meet with me directly.

What have you learned in your first few months of office?

There are always two sides to every issue. The importance of making decisions that are in the best interest of the county and its citizens is critically important. There are always going to be pros and cons to every issue and matter that comes before the Board. My challenge is to make the best decision for all of our citizens and families. Of course, not everyone is going to agree on every single issue and that's OK. My responsibility is to weigh and consider all sides and make a decision from there regardless of whether it's always popular or not.

What do you believe is most important for St. Johns County and this specific area moving forward?

Three things are critical to the future and quality of life in St. Johns County, including Ponte Vedra and District 4. The first is keeping our community safe and secure. The second is coming up with a long-term solution to maintaining our beaches and water sources. And the third is managing our growth and putting the infrastructure in place to support existing and future growth.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

What do you enjoy most about living in this area?

Our family loves the natural beauty and history of this county. Whether it's the nature trails in Nocatee, the beach at Mickler, the scenic highway in Orangedale or the Alligator Farm and historic areas in St. Augustine, there are so many exciting things to do here as a family.

You get to enjoy the best of Florida right on our doorstep.

What do you like doing in your free time?

I enjoy spending as much time with my children, spouse, family and friends as I can.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

Florida Blue returns to present 'Women with Heart' luncheon for third year

Repeating its commitment to the health of Northeast Florida residents, Florida Blue has committed for a third year to serving as the presenting sponsor of the 2019 "Women with Heart" Luncheon benefiting Volunteers in Medicine.

The 2019 "Women with Heart" Luncheon presented by Florida Blue will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 6 at the Florida Blue Conference Center on the company's Deerwood Campus. For the third year, the recognition luncheon will serve to kick off a yearlong celebration of 12 Northeast Florida women whose leadership, advocacy and generosity have significantly impacted others in the community.

The ladies honored as 2019 "Women with Heart" are **Martha Baker, Vickie Cavey, Inger Geraghty, Virginia Hall, Rev. Dr. Helen Jackson, Helga Langthorn, Eleanor Lynch, Velma Monteiro-Tribble, Dr. Pam Rama, Ellen Wiss and Sol Wynter.** In addition, Volunteers in Medicine will be honoring Sherry Magill with the Dorion-Burt Heart of Gold Award, which is given to a deserving woman who goes "above and beyond" in service to the



Photo courtesy of Volunteers in Medicine

Darnell Smith, market president for Florida Blue, gathers with the 2018 Women with Heart honorees, Volunteers in Medicine staff and Board members.

community. Magill will be recognized for her contributions to Northeast Florida as CEO of the Jessie Ball duPont Foundation.

"Florida Blue's mission is to help people and communities achieve better health," Florida Blue Market President Darnell Smith said. "Partnering with Volunteers in Medicine enables us to realize our vision to be a leading innovator in fostering healthy communities. It is important to recognize the work and commitment of some of our community's finest leaders.

"We're proud to play a role in honoring this next group of amazing women for their dedication to one of North-

east Florida's most vulnerable and often over-looked populations — our hard-working uninsured individuals and families," Smith continued. "Each year, the Women with Heart luncheon and the subsequent monthly events customized and hosted by each of the honorees significantly impacts Volunteers in Medicine. The events have not only increased awareness for the clinic's mission and its innovative volunteer service model but have also raised over \$225,000 since 2017. These important dollars support the clinic's primary and 16 specialty care services

VOLUNTEERS continues on Page 11

Florida Blue presents

Women with Heart

to benefit Volunteers in Medicine Jacksonville

Wednesday, February 6, 2019
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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| Thursday, Jan. 17 | Friday, Jan. 18 | Saturday, Jan. 19 | Sunday, Jan. 20 |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>PVHS PTO college admissions workshop The Ponte Vedra High School PTO is hosting an interactive college admissions workshop entitled "The Admissions Game" on Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the school's auditorium. Speaker Peter Van Buskirk, who is the former dean of admissions at Franklin & Marshall College and author of "Winning the College Admission Game," will present strategies to help families navigate the college admission process as they engage in a simulation. During the simulation, the parents are members of an admissions committee and reviewing the applications for four fictional candidates. The program is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required at RevolutionPrep.com/workshops/22749. Ponte Vedra High School is located at 460 Davis Park Road. For questions, contact the PVHS PTO at pto4pvhs@gmail.com.</p> <p>Launch Party with the new North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce The new North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce, a member of the U.S. Green Chamber, is kicking off 2019 with a Launch Party on Thursday, Jan. 17 at MOSH from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets for the Launch Party are \$10, including one free drink ticket. They are available at www.northfloridagreenchamber.org or \$15 at the door. In addition to promoting the economic success of NFGCC members using environmental, socially responsible and sustainable practices, the North Florida chapter plans ongoing networking and educational events, job fairs and a mentoring program. There will be door prizes and giveaways as well as special perks for Founding Members, that join before or during the Launch Party. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle In Jacksonville.</p> <p>Starling at Nocatee open house Starling Senior Living will be hosting its first of the year open house on Jan. 17. Located in the heart of Nocatee, Starling is an oasis of luxury, offering multiple lifestyles in an exceptional environment. The Starling will have its doors open from 1 to 3 p.m. with sales counselors present for tours and info. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served. The Starling is located at 999 Crosswater Parkway in Ponte Vedra.</p> | <p>Catty Shack Friday night feeding This is a 45-minute guided walking tour with the opportunity to see resident animals. At 7:30 p.m., watch the feeding when Catty Shack hands out over 600 pounds of meat. Night feedings are held every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. for more information and ticket pricing, go to http://cattyslack.org.</p> <p>Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida Join the Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida this Friday, Jan. 18 at 2 p.m. for the Monthly Games Day. This event will be held at Café Murabella Plaza. Attendees are encouraged to bring games to review. Refreshments will be served. There are a limited number of seats, so RSVPs are required. For more information call Leanne Dally at (904) 829-0643.</p> <p>Friday Paddle and Drift Every Friday morning from 7:30 to 9 a.m., join fitness expert Emily for a paddle, stretch and drift workout on paddle boards in Salt Run. This paddle is at your own pace. Participation is free if you have your own equipment. The cost is \$35 for equipment rental, which includes board, paddle, leash and PFD. Meet 15 minutes before at the lighthouse boat ramp at 442 Ocean Vista Ave. in St. Augustine. This event will continue weekly until Jan. 12.</p> <p>Botox, Body Sculpting and Brows Party LASH is hosting a Botox, Body Sculpting and Brows Party on Friday, Jan. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. Botox will be offered by LASERLOFT. LASH also offers a \$9 unit for Club Members, an \$11 unit for everyone attending, cellulone treatment demos and special package prices. LASH is located at 1500 Beach Blvd, Suite 114 in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>The 'Wise Guy Kitchen Dinner Show' at the River house The "Wise Guy Kitchen Dinner Show" has been described as "The Food Network meets the Sopranos." This is a live musical comedy and cooking show. Family style dinner will be served with wine, beer or soda. The event will be on Friday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at River house, 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine.</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>GTM Research Reserve beach walk On the third Saturday of the month, join the GTM Research Reserve docents for a beach walk. Learn about the animals that call the beach home and collect seashells and sharks' teeth. This is a "Beaches 101" experience the whole family will enjoy. The event is free, but there is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. This event will be held on Jan. 19. From 9 to 11 a.m. The GTM Research Reserve Visitor Center is located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>11th Annual MLK Breakfast Join St. Johns County Parks and Recreation for the 11th Annual MLK Breakfast event that celebrates the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with breakfast and guest speaker Jarvis J. James on Jan. 19 at 9 a.m. at W.E. Harris Community Center. Tickets are \$25. The Harris Community Center is at 400 E. Harris St. in Hastings. Call (904) 692-3655 for more information.</p> <p>Bagels and Bench Building at Echo at the Beach This workshop will be held Saturday, Jan. 19 at 9 a.m. and lasts approximately three hours. Join Echo at the Beach and The Coastal Nest as they teach attendees how to build a custom bench valued at \$200. All supplies will be provided and the fee per person, per bench is \$150. This will include breakfast, the class where you build, stain and paint your bench and your completed bench is the builder's to take home. Only a few spots are still available. Call the store at (904) 595-5617 to reserve a spot today. Echo at the Beach is located at 1328 Third St. N in Jacksonville Beach.</p> | <p>St. Augustine Film Festival This four-day film festival features works from around the world and runs from Jan. 17 to 20. The festival brings in various directors, producers and actors to discuss their works with high audience interaction. The best way to experience this festival is with a pass, which offers various levels of access. Admission to parties each evening is only available with the all-access pass. Individual tickets are available at the theaters before each film is screened, subject to availability. Visit www.staugfilmfest.com for the schedule and information.</p> <p>An Evening with Robert Klein at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall welcomes stand-up comedian, actor and author Robert Klein to the stage on Jan. 20. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the performance is at 8 p.m. Admission ranges from \$38.50 to \$58.50. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Super Blood Moon Watch Party Celebrate this event and enjoy a night of astronomy through powerful telescopes on the ground as well as in the old-school JU Rooftop Observatory on Jan. 20, from 7 p.m. to 12:45 a.m. Inside activities will include a STARLAB portable planetarium, videos and short presentations throughout the night by local astronomers. Hot beverages will be available. This event will be held at the Jacksonville University at 2800 University Blvd. N. in Jacksonville. The schedule for this event can be found at www.ju.edu/bloodmoon.</p> <p>Sundays at Surfer the Bar Every Sunday, join Big Fish Power Yoga for a free Music & Flow class at Surfer the Bar. The class is held upstairs at the bar and runs from 10 to 11 a.m. every week. Bring friends and family and enjoy brunch and mimosas downstairs following class. Register under classes on bigfishpoweryoga.com. Surfer the Bar is located at 200 First St. in Jacksonville.</p> |

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| Monday, Jan. 21 | Tuesday, Jan. 22 | Wednesday, Jan. 23 | Thursday, Jan. 24 |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Trivia at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom every Monday night at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens will hold a special Martin Luther King Jr. Day event on Monday, Jan. 21. The event features art engagement and special commemorations from 12 to 6 p.m. with free admission for all. Free admission is made possible through grants and sponsorships from The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, JAX Chamber, JEA, and the United Way of Northeast Florida. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>MLK 3 vs. 3 Basketball Tournament Join in on the fun for a 3 vs. 3 Basketball Tournament on Monday, Jan. 21 at Eddie Vickers Park. The tournament will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is open to kids grades 3rd through 8th. Basketball Tournament Details. For more info and to register, contact Willie Cooper at wcooper@sjcfl.us or (904) 209-0395. Eddie Vickers Park is located at the Willie Galimore Center, 399 Riberia St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Tusk at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining The Fleetwood Mac tribute band, Tusk, will play at the Alhambra Theatre on Jan. 21, from 6 to 10 p.m. Tusk features no wigs, no backing tracks, no gimmicks, just five musicians recreating the music of Fleetwood Mac note for note. Tickets can be found at www.alhambrajax.com. The Alhambra Theatre & Dining is located at 12000 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>JAME Join JAME at the Cultural Center from Jan. 18 to March 2. JAME is an annual juried exhibition of CCPVB's Artist Members. Artist Members can submit in up to five works of art and outside judges select pieces as well as assigned prizes at the opening. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> | <p>Quit Smoking Now class Celebrate the New Year tobacco free. Join the free Quit Smoking Now class at Flagler Hospital Wellness Center. Classes meet once a week for six weeks starting on Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 6 to 7 p.m. Free patches, lozenges, and gum are available. In addition, a free quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and other tools to aid in cessation will be available. Call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189 to register and learn more about classes near you.</p> <p>Genealogy at the River House Join the River House for a six-week course to begin the journey into researching genealogy. Call (904) 209-3655 for a reservation. Cost is \$30 for River House Members and \$35 for non-members. Classes are held on Tuesdays beginning Jan. 8 to Feb. 12 at 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The River House is located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Toddler Tuesdays Join Bravo Entertainment every Tuesday morning from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for Toddler Tuesdays. During this time, the facility is reserved for the exclusive use of toddlers, ages 5 and under. One adult is admitted for free with each child's \$8 paid admission. Bravo Entertainment Center is located at 14985 Old St. Augustine Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club Join the First Coast Card Club at the Main Library on Jan. 22 at 12:30 p.m. The Main Library is located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Pete Yorn at Jack Rabbits JaxLive presents Pete Yorn at Jack Rabbits on Jan. 22, from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. This is an all ages event. Yorn is best known for his album, Musicforthemorningafter, which came out in 2001. He has a recent EP with actress Scarlett Johansson and a Capitol Records debut, ArrangingTime. Tickets for this event can be found at etix.com. Jack Rabbits is located at 1528 Hendricks Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> | <p>Historian Scott Grant to present on 1964 St. Augustine Movement project at St. Augustine Jewish Historical Society meeting Historian Scott Grant is developing a documentary on the events of the St. Augustine Civil Rights Movement of 1964, including the largest mass arrest of rabbis in U.S. history. He will be the guest speaker at the Jan. 23 meeting of the St. Augustine Jewish Historical Society scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. Grant's presentation will take place at the Main Branch of the St. Johns County Public Library, 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine. This hour-long program is free, open to the public and no advance arrangements need be made. All are welcome. Call (804) 914-4460 for further information.</p> <p>Wine Wednesday at the Renaissance Join the World Gold Village every Wednesday evening in the Villagio Lounge from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvre tasting. Attendees can sample red and white wines from around the world and savor a chef-inspired appetizer to complement the wines. The World Golf Village is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Cher: Here We Go Again tour Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena is hosting the Cher: Here We Go Again tour. Cher is an American singer and actress who is also known as the Goddess of Pop. Cher has been in show business for 46 years and has had a No. 1 record in each of the last five decades, from "I Got You Babe," in 1965, to "Song for the Lonely" in 2002. She will perform at the Veterans Memorial Arena on Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$39.95 to \$234.95. The Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena is located at 300 A Phillip Randolph Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>'Game of Thrones' trivia Trivia about the show "Game of Thrones" will be held at Lola's Burrito & Burger Joint on Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. RSVPs are required. Prizes will be awarded to winners. Lola's Burrito & Burger Joint is located at 1522 King St. in Jacksonville.</p> | <p>Savvy Job Hunters Ministry workshop Learn job interview preparation tips on Jan. 24 from 9 a.m. until noon. Hear Buddy Webster, partner and recruiting consultant at LEADERS Professional Recruiting, Inc., present must-have interviewing tips. Buddy will conduct several mock interviews during this interactive workshop. Attendees can practice interviewing to help reduce anxiety and nervousness so they can communicate their skills clearly. This is also a great networking opportunity. A resume workshop and Myers-Briggs type indicator personality assessment will be offered as well. This event will take place at Christ Episcopal Church at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Boardwalk Talk with Dr. Michael Butler Dr. Michael Butler is an associate professor at Flagler College and will speak at the Beaches Museum Chapel on Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. His lecture "Local Campaigns, National Relevance: The Florida Civil Rights Movement" focuses on the concept of "Florida exceptionalism" in relation to the black freedom struggle and places the Sunshine state into its proper regional and national perspective. Through an examination of the Florida freedom movement, we can develop a more complete understanding of the still-ongoing struggle for racial justice in the United States. The Beaches Museum Chapel is located at 381 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>20 at the Farm Join 20 at the Farm at Congaree and Penn every Thursday at 5:45 p.m. until Feb. 21. The tiny dining experience will be hosted by Culinary director Trey Hartinger and Chef de Cuisine Daniel Jordan. Attendees can enjoy a feast at the farm with family and friends. Tickets can be purchased at www.congareeandpenn.com. Congaree and Penn is located at 11830 Old Kings Road 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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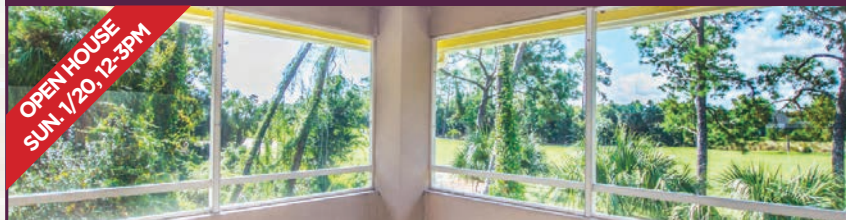
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GTM Research Reserve to host annual State of the Reserve symposium Feb. 1

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM Research Reserve) will host its annual State of the Reserve symposium on Friday, Feb. 1.

This year's theme, "Celebrating 20 Years," will highlight the reserve's long-term research projects, including research on local fish and lizards, habitat mapping efforts, mangroves and saltmarshes, and wave, current and wind measurements of the reserve's beaches and water quality.

"Each year I look forward to the State of the Reserve which provides an opportunity for staff, volunteers, visiting scientists and partners to share the progress and results of their research within GTM's boundaries," said Dr. Michael Shirley, director of GTM Research Reserve. "GTM was chosen as part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System because of its pristine condition and a combination of natural and cultural resources."

The symposium is kicking off with a morning session, "How's the Water: Eutrophication and Us!" which will provide an opportunity for attendees to learn about

eutrophication, over-enrichment of water by nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus, the natural processes and its causes and impacts.

The traditional scientific symposium in the afternoon will include oral presentations on technical research conducted at the reserve, followed by a poster session and a reception hosted by the Friends of the GTM Reserve. The event is open to the public. Registration is required to attend the reception.

The GTM Research Reserve was officially designated in 1999 as part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Estuarine Research Reserve System within St. Johns and Flagler counties. It is one of 29 reserves in 23 states and one territory. Additionally, GTM is one of three reserves in Florida, and is administered on behalf of the state by DEP's Florida Coastal Office as part of a network that also includes 41 aquatic preserves, a National Marine Sanctuary, the Coral Reef Conservation Program and the Florida Oceans and Coastal Council.

For more information, contact Kaitlyn. Dietz@FloridaDEP.gov.

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The USO hosts its weekly Healthy Military Families Food Initiative on Tuesday, Jan. 15, which provided support to those affected by the partial government shutdown.

Photo courtesy of the USO



Shutdown

Continued from 4

Guthrie Alice's Restaurant Tour" on Jan. 23 will be free to anyone showing a valid government employee ID at the door.

BEAM asks those interested in helping to check its Facebook and website, where the organization will communicate its needs for donations of food, financial

assistance or volunteers. For those who are affected and are looking for assistance, BEAM offers food and supplies at both its Jacksonville Beach and Mayport locations. The hours at Jacksonville Beach are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with Fridays 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mayport is open Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays alternate between locations with Jacksonville Beach opening the first and fourth of the month.

Volunteers

Continued from 7

and programs. We are excited to join them for a third year and look forward to celebrating this impressive group of 2019 honorees."

Highlights of this year's luncheon, in addition to honoring these 12 women, will be a drawing for the Heart of Jacksonville necklace that the 2018 Women with Heart Honorees have worn during their advocacy efforts. The event will also highlight the new necklace donated by Allen's Jewelers with an estimated value of \$15,000.

Volunteers in Medicine is a non-profit clinic founded in 2003 that provides free medical services to the working unin-

sured. Its full-service downtown clinic sees patients six days a week including Saturdays and is funded by grants, and private and individual donations.

"We are so pleased that Florida Blue is our presenting sponsor for the third year in a row," Volunteers in Medicine CEO Jennifer Ryan said. "And their participation once again underscores their commitment to our patients and ensuring that everyone in our community has access to quality medical care. Not only do they provide significant financial contributions, but they also provide valuable support to our board and programs. Later this year we will be rolling out a telemedicine program funded by Florida Blue to improve outcomes for diabetes, hypertension and mental health. Florida Blue is a true community partner."

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Love of soccer knows no language

PVHS soccer players participate in scrimmage with refugee players in win for all involved

By Paris Moulden

Is it true that sports can transcend language and cultural barriers?

A group of soccer players from Ponte Vedra High School (PVHS) and a group of refugees from around the First Coast found that to be the case when they participated in a soccer friendly on Jan. 5.

The young players may have vastly different life experiences, speak different languages, celebrate different holidays and traditions, but the love of the world's most popular sport brought them together.

The soccer friendly was arranged by Kim Bogart, who is founder and director of Kim's Open Door, an area nonprofit that "equips a diverse group of volunteers who teach life skills to local at-risk kids, through education, the arts and community events."

Bogart began Kim's Open Door after hearing on the news about 31 shootings in 31 days in Jacksonville in 2014. Bogart wanted to help at-risk youth in the community and worked with area police departments and schools to create opportunities and safe experiences for young people in the area. She said the nonprofit also trains and mobilizes people from diverse backgrounds to tutor and mentor at-risk kids.

Another big part of the nonprofit involves assisting the area's hundreds of refugee children, who may be struggling in their new schools and environments.

"One of our greatest focus groups are refugees that we have been working with for about three years, now," Bogart said. "We're really fortunate to have people from all around the world in our city. And the refugee children in our public schools are put into classes, and English is their second or third language. So that is our strategic target group."

And Bogart said she's been amazed at what she's seen.

"Our results have been unbelievable," she said. "Their language acquisition and life-skills acquisition are unbelievable. We've had great results."

Setting up the scrimmage

Bogart is passionate about sharing what her organization does, and it was during her speaking engagement at a Ponte Vedra church that first set things in motion for the Jan. 5 event. Kamie McBrayer, a parent of a Ponte Vedra High soccer player, was in attendance and contacted Bogart to see how the PVHS players could get involved with the nonprofit. Bogart came up with the idea for a scrimmage — and she knew just the right person to help make it happen.

Scott Wise has a very busy life, teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) at Southside Middle School and serving as the school's assistant soccer coach. Not to



Photo courtesy of Rebecca Burchell

Soccer players from Ponte Vedra High School and refugees from the All Nations Soccer League participate in a soccer scrimmage on Jan. 5.



Photo by Paris Moulden

Southside Middle School teacher Scott Wise, with son Isaiah, 13, coaches two teams in the All Nations Soccer League.

mention, he has four kids — a 16-year-old son, two 13-year-old boys, including one adopted from China, and a 10-year-old daughter he and his wife adopted from Ethiopia. He also manages to fit in coaching two teams from the All Nations Soccer League (ANSL), a Jacksonville-based league that was created in 2017 in partnership with World Relief.

Working with refugees has special meaning to Wise not only because two of his own children are from other countries, but because his family has lived across the world, including in China for five years, and understands how hard it can be to acclimate to a new culture, especially for adolescents.

"The situations they come from are challenging, and when they get here,

there's opportunity but there's also a lot of other challenges in front of them" Wise said. "They're not put in an easy place to succeed."

Wise met Bogart through Kim's Open Door, which tutors refugee children throughout area public schools, including at Southside Middle every Thursday. Bogart said refugee students are often just placed into classrooms where they don't know the language, and often subject to bullying, which makes tutoring and extra-curricular activities so important.

Wise has seen a big boost in the number of people from the area wanting to play in the ANSL in its short time in existence. Players in the league are ages 15 and up, and most are in high school, but Wise said as much as they love soccer, they haven't had opportunities in the past to play for an organized league or team.

"They knew soccer," Wise said. "They eat, breathe and sleep soccer. We don't have to spend a lot of time teaching them the foot skills or ball handling, but organized teamwork, discipline that come along with organized soccer, which they haven't played before, they're at the right age where they need to be learning and practicing those things."

Logistics are also a big problem for refugee students when it comes to organized sports. Wise said transportation is the No. 1 factor, and he even has a van to help get players to practices and games. Wise said through organizations like Bogart's, people want to help and can see what a difference they can make.

"This person doesn't have cleats, this person can't get to the field," he said. "And when people see that they're able to

work together, those needs can be met."

Wise expects the league to continue to grow not only because of soccer's growing popularity in the U.S., but also because of the sense of comfort being on a team provides.

"It's a unifier and it's an educator," Wise said. "All the sudden they're part of the group. When everything is all topsy-turvy and their lives are turned upside down, they feel like they're at home on the soccer field."

Game day

On the day of the scrimmage, all the players were there for the same reason — to play soccer — but they all also enjoyed an added life lesson.

Bogart implemented an activity where the players involved had to get to know each other by finding out how they're more alike than different. The kids were asked to communicate with each other and brainstorm five things they had in common, whether it be having a sibling, the food they like, the music they listen to, and of course, a love of soccer.

"It is building relationships with these kids, and it is a much-needed activity, especially with so many days out of school (over the school break)," Bogart said.

The players were also surprised with a visit from professional soccer player Tony Taylor, who played at Bishop Kenny High School and Jacksonville University. Taylor also played for the Jacksonville Armada in 2017.

"That really meant a lot to the refugees, they were so excited," Bogart said.



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Local 'barn find' car makes its way from storage unit to Concours d'Elegance

By Amber Lake

For classic car aficionados, there is a secret world of treasures hidden away in sheds, outbuildings and storage units across the United States. The possibility of stumbling across one of these is about as likely as hitting the lottery — and potentially as lucrative as well.

These underground pearls of the car world are known as “barn finds.” Broken, rusted and deflated, these undiscovered classics have either been forgotten or disregarded by their owners until someone stumbles across them and recognizes them for what they are worth. In the case of Ponte Vedra’s recently-discovered 1954 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing Coupe, the value is estimated to be around \$1 to \$1.4 million, fully restored, according to the Hagerty Valuation Tool price guide.

Bill Warner, the founder and chairman of the Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance, assisted with the discovery of the car within the Ponte Vedra Beach storage unit where it had been sleeping for around 10 years. The Gullwing is now owned by the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California, which purchased it at an undisclosed amount.

Warner, 75, remembered admiring the car when he was just 16. He has kept in touch with the car’s owners since he saw it almost 60 years ago. Warner said he naturally filed the information in his mind to “make a point of knowing what’s around.”

The owner of the Gullwing wishes to remain anonymous although Warner did state he believes one of the reasons he eventually decided to sell was the time, cost and money involved with restoration. Although Warner was interested in the car himself, he jokingly said, “There comes a point in your life when (attempting) a car like that to getting a proper restore, you have to wait in line a year or two. Then, when they get to it, it’s another two years. When you get to be in your late 70s or early 80s — that’s four years to get a car done. You just don’t know if you’re going to be alive that long.”

Partially what makes the 1954 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing Coupe special is its limited production, with this one being the 43rd out of only 1,400 made. Also, because the car was designed as a race car, the doors open from the roof rather than the sides to streamline it. The Gullwing is known as one of the first true sports cars ever made and is considered an iconic car for collectors. In its prime, it could travel upwards of 160 miles per hour, all according to Hagerty’s website.

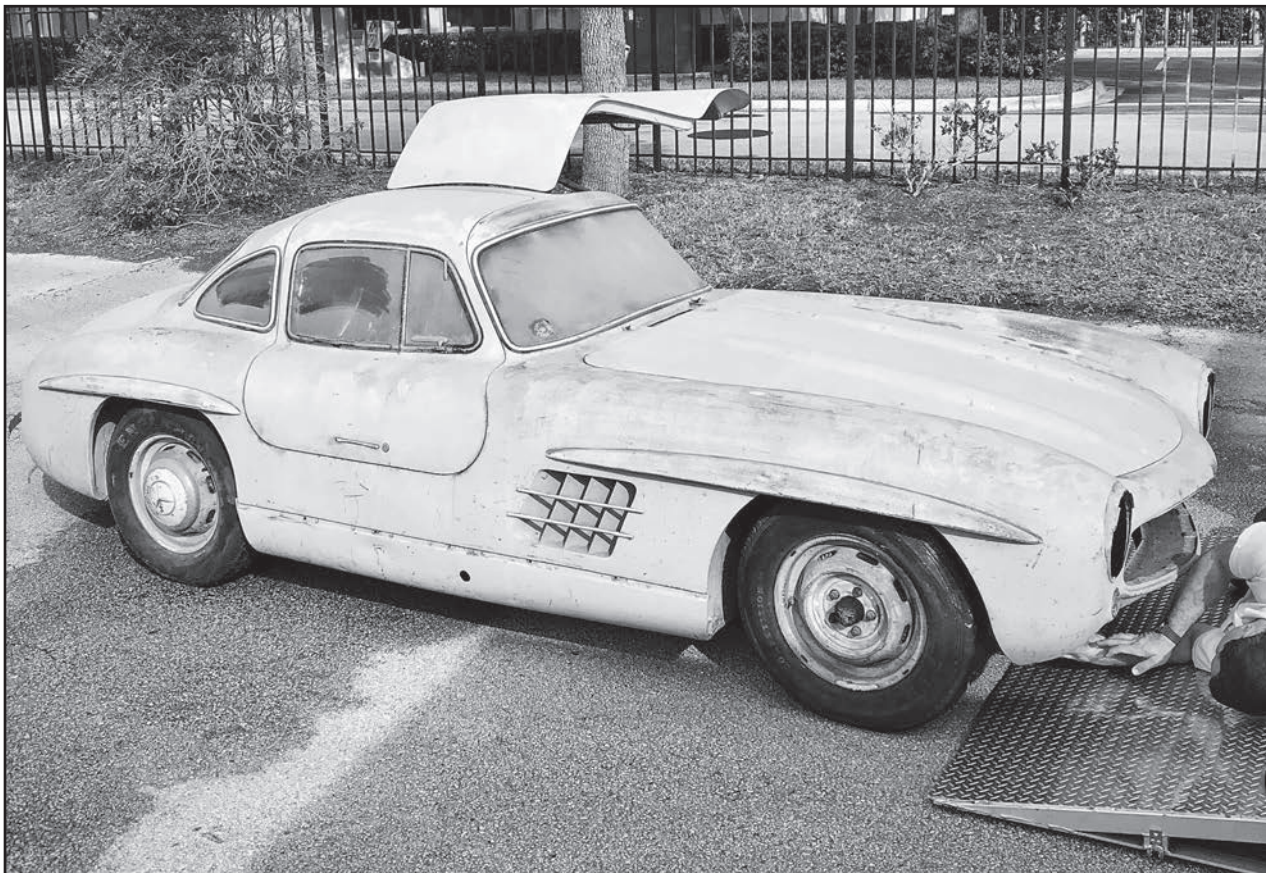
“There are specific cars that are must haves for collectors,” Warner said. “A 427 Cobra is one. A pre-1971 Ferrari is another and a Duesenberg is another. That’s just the way it is. This car is one of those.”

Constantin von Kageneck, the marketing and communication specialist for the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center that bought the car, said seeing it in its original state was a “phenomenal experience.”

The unveiling of the car was broadcast in May 2018 by Hagerty’s Barn Find Hunter’s YouTube channel, episode 32. Warner joined automotive writer Tom Cotter as they opened the Ponte Vedra storage unit.

Beneath the thick layer of dust, the all-original Gullwing shows little evidence of rust or damage, which is a feat itself in Florida’s humid climate.

“The original tires were there,” Warner said, “which just about blew us all away. The tires were dry rotted and everything, but the tubes were still good.”



Photos courtesy of the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

The 1954 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing Coupe is displayed as it was discovered in the Ponte Vedra storage unit. The Gullwing will be shown at the Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance, which takes place March 7-10.



Photo courtesy of Bill Warner of Concours d’Elegance



Even an ancient and partially-peeled AAA sticker still clings to the rear window, offering a \$200 reward for the “arrest and conviction of a thief stealing the member’s car.”

“We believe the car has been sitting since 1956 and with 35,308 miles on the odometer,” Kageneck said. “It appears the original owner enjoyed this 300 SL quite a bit between 1954 to 1956. The car was also found in primer and with all of its chrome trim pieces packed inside, probably awaiting a repaint that never happened. ...Everything was original, from the body panels, glass, interior trim, powertrain, wheels and even tires.”

The 65-year-old car’s life looks like it’s taken a sudden and exciting turn: It will be featured at this year’s Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance, which takes place March 7-10. It will be reunited with its sister car, No. 44, which

has received a full restoration. Kageneck said for the show that even the car’s dust “will be left intact.” This will be the first time the cars have been together since their initial production in 1954.

“For most classic car aficionados, there is an emotional connection to a specific car,” Kageneck said. “It was the car their parents took them on vacation when they were young, the first car they owned in high school or the car they dreamed about when they were introduced to cars in the first place. ...Classic cars tell a story of the past, they inspire people’s nostalgic imagination and offer us a glimpse of what life in the past looked like.”

As for the No. 43 Gullwing, although its past has taken it many turns, its future looks like it might finally see the hot asphalt of the highway once again.

NOCATEE HAPPENINGS

Realtors get first look at Colony at Twenty Mile

Nocatee hosted a realtor preview for the Colony at Twenty Mile on Jan. 10.

Event attendees enjoyed tours of the community's model homes, delicious foods and time spent with the developer and builders, including David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes and Providence Homes.

The Colony at Twenty Mile features one- and two-story single-family homes ranging from 2,450 to 3,800 square feet of living space. Homes start in the high \$300s.

For more information, visit www.nocatee.com.



Photos by Susan Griffin

The Colony at Twenty Mile features one- and two-story single-family homes ranging from 2,450 to 3,800 square feet of living space.

Soccer

Continued from 12

The players from PVHS may have provided insight on how organized high school soccer is played, but they also received plenty of insight themselves.

"It was a really good experience because I got to play the sport I love to play with people from different cultures and it was a just an experience to see it from other people's views," said Liam Burchell, a freshman soccer player at PVHS.

Burchell said he and his teammates were excited for the opportunity to make the connections with the refugee players, and to be offered a different perspective.

"I think we learned to be more aware of what's happening around you, and around the world," he said.

But the biggest impact on Burchell from the event was something universal to all kids.

"Just to be able to see them and help them have fun just like we do playing soccer," he said.

That's precisely the mission, said Bogart.

"That's part of the strategic events that create a healthy community," Bogart said, "it is really just breaking down those barriers and creating empathy and compassion for one another."

NOCATEE RESIDENTS ENJOY POLAR PLUNGE



About 400 Nocatee residents braved the chilly weather and participated in Nocatee's 10th annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, Jan. 12. The event featured live music by a DJ, a costume contest, a "snow fall" and free breakfast for those who took the plunge. Plus, the Lazy River and Riptide Slides were open for residents to enjoy.

Photos courtesy of Nocatee Ponte Vedra
Nocatee.com



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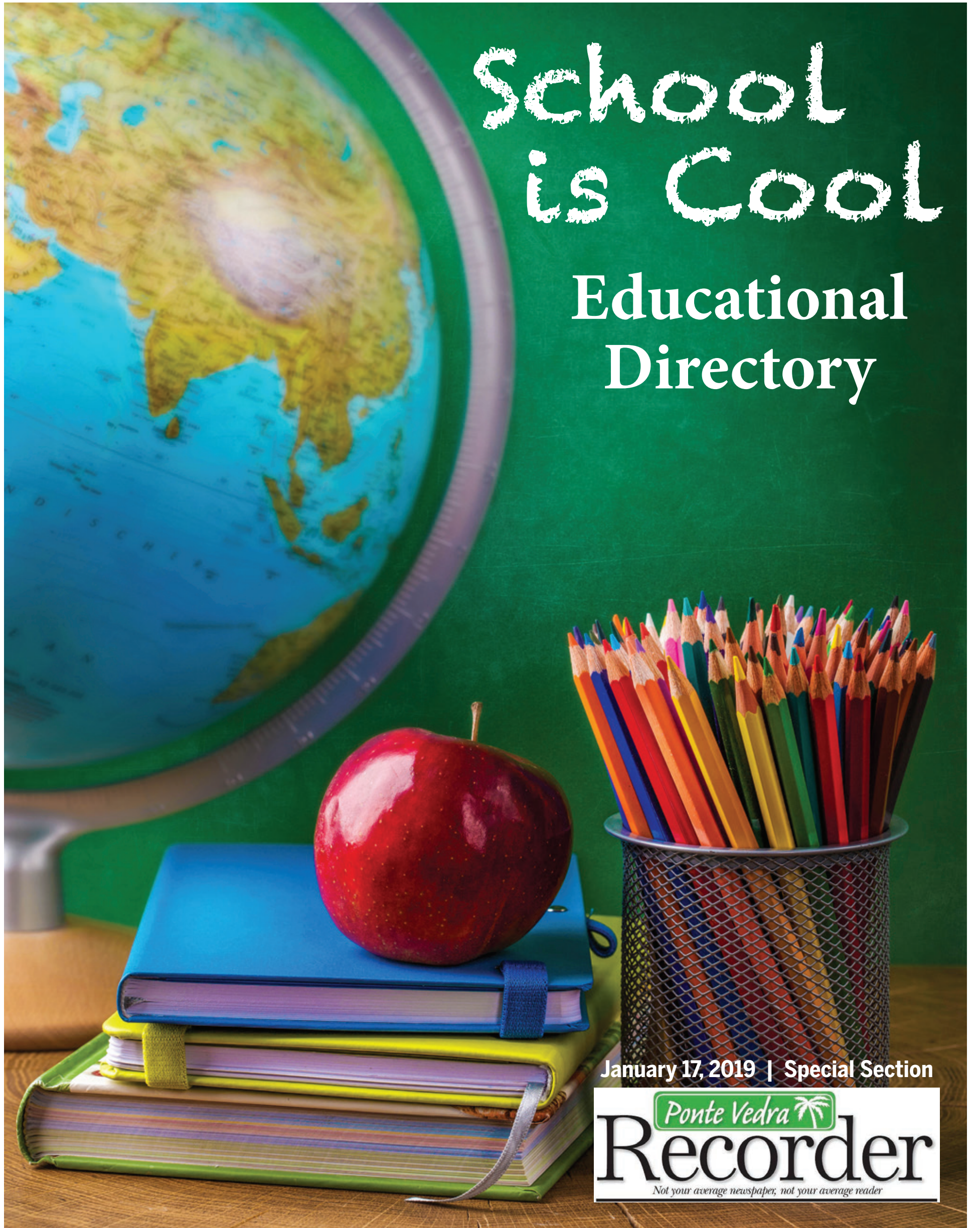
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January 17, 2019 | Special Section

Ponte Vedra 
Recorder
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Barrera outlines School Board goals, initiatives

By Jon Blauvelt

College and career readiness, flexible learning, student leadership opportunities and growth management are currently among the primary, strategic goals for the St. Johns County School Board, according to Board Chair and District 4 Member Kelly Barrera.

A Ponte Vedra Beach resident, Barrera spoke with the Recorder last week to discuss these goals, areas of focus and the Board's overall vision, as well as key topics such as safety and security and mental health.

Goals and vision

As for goals and vision, Barrera said the School Board has identified four goals within its strategic plan. The first is regarding college and career readiness to ensure students graduate with the skills they need for college and/or a career. The second is to provide students with the choice/flexibility to customize their learning path. This includes the ability to learn online or via virtual instruction.

Another goal for the School Board, Barrera said, is to focus on well-rounded student success and providing students with the opportunities for leadership and character building. Included in this bucket is strengthening students' life skills, by, for example, participating in service projects in the community.

Barrera said the final goal in the School Board's strategic plan is growth management success. She explained that managing systematic growth doesn't simply mean building buildings; it also translates to updating and maintaining current buildings. In addition, that area of focus includes hiring more excellent teachers and developing and hiring the best leadership in the district. Meeting this goal, Barrera said, also includes fulfilling the needs of non-instructional personnel, such as bus drivers, food service employees, etc.

Other goals for the School Board include increasing exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), partnering with other agencies to build the optimal environment for teachers and staff and working on mentorship programs for teachers and students. Barrera said the School Board will also be putting more focus on continuing to expand First Coast Technical College.



Kelly Barrera

Safety and security

Almost one year after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Barrera said she feels "very strong" about the safety and security of schools in St. Johns County.

"We were very proactive on safety and security of our schools before Parkland, and we had already been putting that money and resources into beefing it up," she said. "With the money that the legislature put towards that and the half-cent sales tax, we've been able to take that to another level."

With that being said, Barrera said they are never satisfied, and that the district is always making the issue a top priority.

"Unfortunately, in today's world, no one is ever 100 percent safe," she said. "But as we keep investing more resources and more attention and more focus on that, we

continue to improve. Equipment becomes better. Communication and resources and collaboration between agencies has become better. Prevention has become better. That will always be one of our top priorities."

In an editorial Barrera submitted to the Recorder in August 2018, the School Board chair noted that every school in St. Johns County School District is now protected by trained, armed security personnel. The district has worked with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Security Services to do so.

As for the investments that were made in security prior to the Parkland shooting, Barrera highlighted in her editorial the purchase of the 800 MHz security radios for every school and school bus to provide direct communication with the Sheriff's Office. In addition, Barrera said the district has conducted active shooter training drills for some time, among other investments.

Mental health

As expectations continue to rise for students across the country, school districts are presented with the challenge of balancing the desire to succeed with maintaining mental health.

Barrera addressed this topic and told the Recorder it's important to remind folks that it's OK to fail.

"Everybody is on their own journey," Barrera said. "They will excel and not excel at different times. ... Everyone shines in different ways. It all doesn't have to be at one time."

In her August 2018 editorial, Barrera noted the district has hired additional school psychologists, mental health counselors and social workers to support the mental health of students. Barrera noted that the district is also working with third-party community partners to address this issue. They are also adding additional avenues for social and emotional learning through programs such as Character Counts!, Capturing Kids Hearts, Link Crew and more.

"There are so many different ways that students excel," Barrera said. "Certainly the school looks for when students have overfilled their plate or are overstressed. But I encourage parents at home to keep in mind that there's a place for everyone to succeed."

SOUPer Bowl IV at Nease to help feed local students in need

The SOUPer Bowl at Nease High School is returning for the fourth consecutive year on Thursday, Jan. 31.

The event, which will run from 6 to 8 p.m., will be graced by some of the top chefs on the First Coast, who will join forces to offer their signature creations.

Primarily a soup tasting event, the SOUPer Bowl is planned, organized, and hosted by Nease students with two goals — to raise funds needed to run the Blessings in a Backpack program in St. Johns County schools and to create more awareness about student hunger in the community.

Blessings in a Backpack is a program for students on free and reduced-price lunches in school who are dependent on school meals for nutrition during the week. Many of these children do not have guaranteed meals waiting for them at home over the weekend. First Coast Blessings steps in to fill that gap by sending food home with these students.

"Hunger should not be a worry or challenge for today's youth," said Kimberly Ward, executive director of First Coast Blessings in a Backpack. "It is important that, as a community, we do everything we can to feed them. I have seen the direct and powerful impact that this program has on the students, as well as the families and school as a whole."

The hope that no child in St. Johns County should go hungry has been the driving force behind the SOUPer Bowl event. Nease students have been packing food for school children at Webster Elementary for over eight years in the only student-led and organized program in the area. Four and a half years ago, however, it was discovered that available funding would be insufficient to feed the rising numbers of students in need at Webster Elementary, which included over 200 children on a waiting list.



Photo courtesy of Amrita Bhargava

Guests sample the array of gourmet soups at the SOUPer Bowl at Nease High School. This year's event is Jan. 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Nease. Tickets are \$25 at studentstacklehunger.org.

HEAL Foundation distributes 40 iPads to local ESE classrooms

Ponte Vedra Beach-based nonprofit has distributed 400 total iPads in four years

By Jon Blauvelt

The HEAL Foundation distributed 40 iPads to Exceptional Student Education (ESE) classrooms throughout St. Johns, Duval, Nassau, Clay and Baker counties last week.

The deliveries are the result of the organization's iPads Helping Enrich Autistic Lives (iHEAL) initiative. The program, which started about four years ago, has led to a total of 400 iPads being gifted to local schools.

"These are teachers who aren't necessarily getting a lot of supplies that they need covered by the schools and then they're dipping in their own pockets," said Jason Gurka, executive director of the HEAL Foundation, which is based in Ponte Vedra Beach. "So, to be able to hand them a \$400 item that really is going to not only assist the kids but encourage their growth and development, to be part of HEAL and to see the reaction firsthand, it makes all the work throughout the year worth it."

The nonprofit's goal with the initiative is to gift an iPad to every local ESE classroom in Northeast Florida and help support local students with intellectual and developmental differences. Each iPad comes with a protective case and a \$25 iTunes gift card, so teachers can purchase educational apps for their students.

Kaitlyn Goyette, a support facilitation teacher at Ponte Vedra High School, received her iPad and accessories from HEAL on Friday. She said the tool will serve eight classrooms and approxi-



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

HEAL Foundation Executive Director Jason Gurka presents Ponte Vedra High School teacher Kaitlyn Goyette and student Owen Gee with an iPad, case and \$25 iTunes gift card. The presentation was part of the nonprofit's iPads Helping Enrich Autistic Lives (iHEAL) initiative, which has gifted 400 iPads to local schools over the last four years.

mately 30 students. She noted that the apps on the iPad will assist students with communication and fundamental skills such as math, science and English.

"I just know it's going to do a lot of good for a lot of students," Goyette said.

Gurka added that the iPads are especially helpful for those students who are nonverbal because the technology enables them to communicate their wants and needs, from needing a restroom break to more generally advancing their education.

That exact concept is what led to the formation of the iHEAL initiative. HEAL founders Leslie and Bobby Weed discovered that their daughter, Lanier, who is non-verbal and profoundly affected by Autism, was able to communicate at the age of 16 with the support of an iPad.

The Weeds realized other lives could be impacted in a similar way by starting the program.

"The goal is to get technology directly in the teachers' hands, so that they can hopefully have more stories like Lanier and let these students grow," Gurka said.

Funding for iHEAL and many other HEAL initiatives derive from the nonprofit's annual gala, which is coming up on Feb. 21 at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach. iHEAL is open to teachers supporting children with special needs in St. Johns, Baker, Clay, Duval and Nassau counties. For more information on how to apply for an iPad, visit www.healautis-mnow.org.

"It's a pretty powerful initiative," Gurka said, "and it really does change lives."



Cody A. Nix

Nease alumnus graduates from basic military training in San Antonio

Nease alumnus and U.S. Air Force Airman Cody A. Nix recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an Associate in Applied Science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Nix is the son of Deborah L. and Howard C. Nix. He is the brother of Dylan R. Nix of St. Augustine.



Photo courtesy of Amrita Bhargava

The SOUPer Bowl 2018 People's Choice winner was the Sawgrass Country Club. Proceeds from the event benefit First Coast Blessings in a Backpack

SOUPer

Continued from 18

As a result, the SOUPer Bowl event was envisioned and implemented by a group of parents, students and administration at Nease to raise the necessary funds to cover the deficit. Today, over 100 Nease students now combine talents from the Hospitality & Tourism, Digital Design, International Baccalaureate and Television Production academies to tackle hunger in the county's schools.

Restaurants returning this year will be Sawgrass Country Club, the People's Choice Award winner at the 2018 SOUPer Bowl, as well as Restaurant Medure, Ice Plant, Trasca & Co., Palm Valley Fish Camp, Fifth Element and Sysco & Publix Cooking Schools.

Also participating in the event for the first time will be South Kitchen & Spirits, MAA

Kitchen, Trelor Park & Hitch and Fionn MacCools. Over the past three years, this undertaking has raised over \$90,000 for First Coast Blessings in a Backpack with the help of the restaurants.

The goal for SOUPer Bowl IV is to raise \$40,000, which will support 400 students for one school year. Seventeen schools in St. Johns County depend on the program to support their students.

The cost to cover a single student is \$100 per year. The monies raised by the SOUPer Bowl will supplement the existing program and ensure that no child at risk for hunger goes home for the weekend without a "blessing in their backpack."

Tickets for the event are \$25 per person. Attendees are encouraged to consider sponsoring one child for one year at the \$100 cost. To purchase tickets, obtain information or sign up as a participating restaurant, visit www.StudentsTackleHunger.org.



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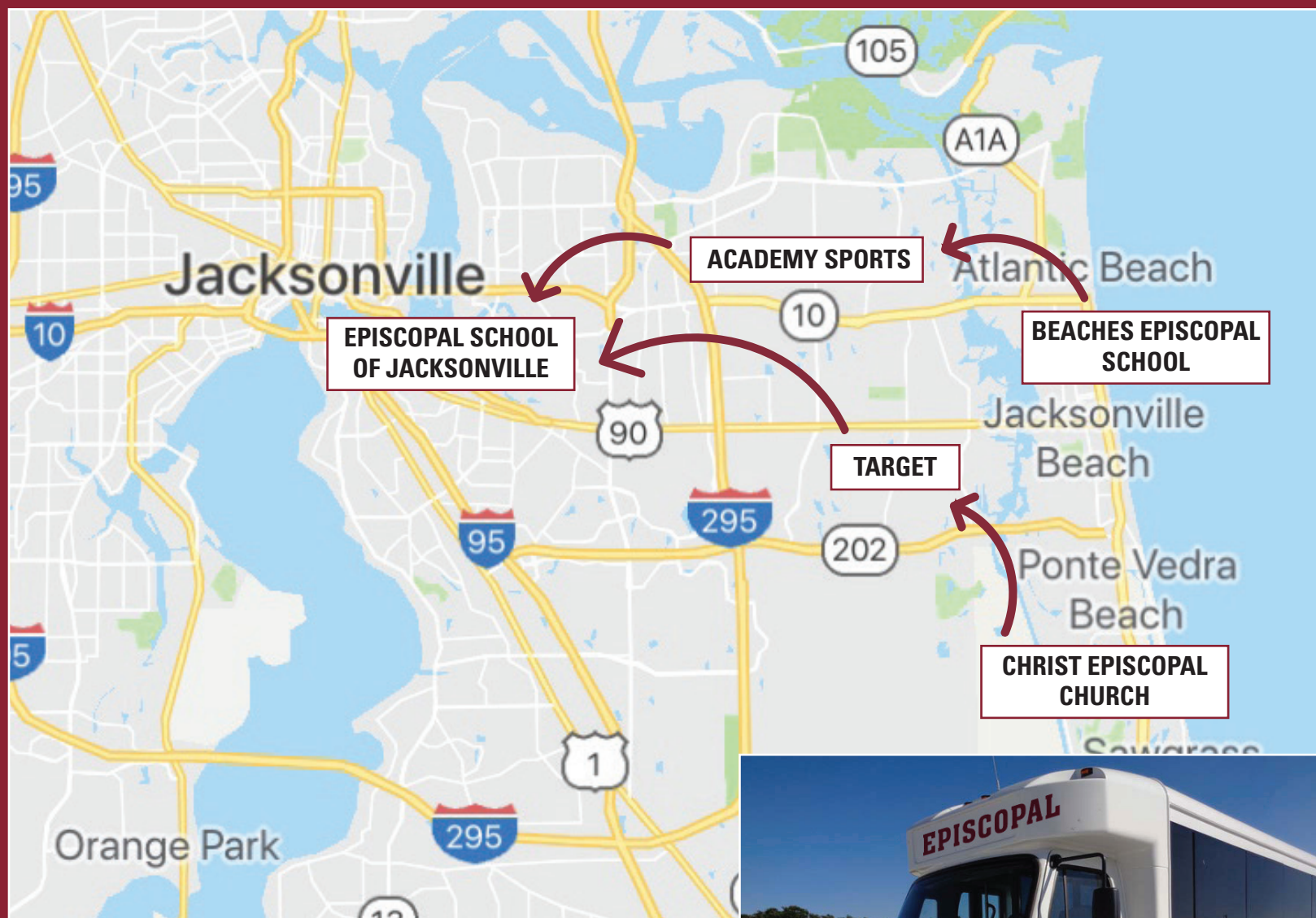
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BUS 2

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

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Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Beaches Episcopal School to merge into one school in summer 2020

Episcopal School of Jacksonville (ESJ) and Beaches Episcopal School (BES) recently announced the two schools will become one on July 1, 2020.

After a thorough discussion and an in-depth review, the governing boards of ESJ and BES, the Diocese of Florida and St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church voted unanimously to merge BES into ESJ to continue their mutual mission of Episcopal Christian education. A legal agreement was signed on Dec. 13. Both schools believe this combination advances the passion and commitment each school has to quality education.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to become one with Episcopal School of Jacksonville," BES Head of School Martha Milton said. "The merger of the two Episcopal schools reflects the importance of continuing an excellent academic education for children that nurtures mind, body and spirit. We are looking forward to a robust future."

Episcopal and BES lauded the Right Reverend Samuel Johnson Howard, bishop of the Diocese of Florida and the rector and vestry of St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, for his guidance, leadership and

care during this process.

The two schools will spend the 2019-2020 school year working on the operational implications of the merger. BES will continue to operate as an independent school through June 30, 2020, after which time it will be fully merged into ESJ.

"We look forward to honoring the wonderful history and culture of Beaches Episcopal as it is merged into Episcopal School of Jacksonville," ESJ Head of School Rev. Adam Greene said. "We are excited about the opportunities this merger will create for our schools and our community."



ESJ Head of School Rev. Adam Greene



BES Head of School Martha Milton

'One Community, One Read' program to feature author Lisa Wingate's appearance Feb. 23

The St. Johns County Public Library System recently announced that St. Johns Reads 2019 has chosen Lisa Wingate's bestselling novel "Before We Were Yours" as the next community reads title, and that Wingate will be visiting St. Johns County.



Lisa Wingate

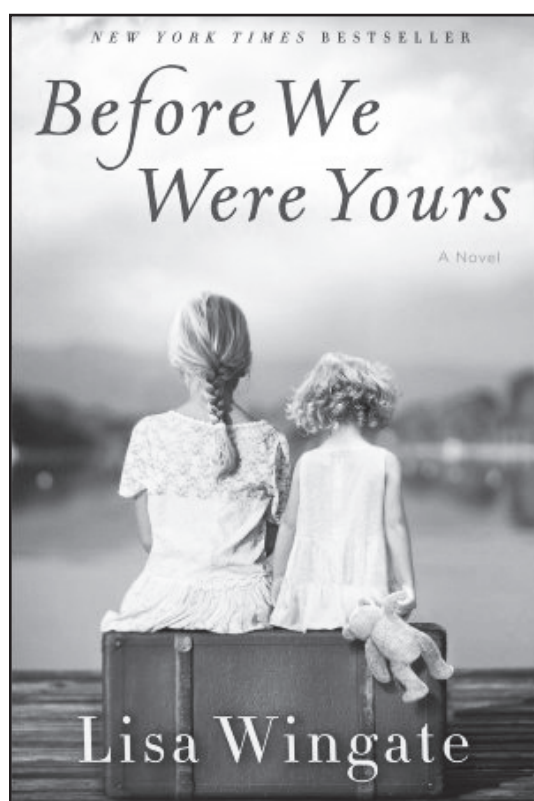
St. Johns Reads 2019, a "One Community, One Read" initiative, will feature a full month of programming and events centered around the community's reading of "Before We Were Yours." As the finale to St. Johns Reads, Wingate will be making a personal appear-

ance at the St. Johns County Convention Center at World Golf Village on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.

"Before We Were Yours" depicts the story of a horrifying and little-known piece of depression era history, as described from Wingate's webpage.

"An engrossing new novel based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals — in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country. 'Before We Were Yours' brilliantly fictionalizes and brings to life a shocking facet of America's past."

Scheduled programs for St. Johns Reads include visits from the St. Johns Riverkeeper team,



Photos courtesy of St. Johns County Public Library System

Lisa Wingate's "Before We Were Yours" is the next community reads title for St. Johns Reads.

craft programs, food programs featuring a "Taste of the Old South" and more events touching upon the culture and era surrounding this story.

Wingate's appearance is funded in partnership with the library's seven Friends of the Library groups and a grant from the Florida Humanities Council through the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The author of 30 books, Wingate will be reading from "Before We Were Yours," discussing her work and her process for researching and writing. Books will be available for purchase and signing by Wingate, courtesy of the Bookmark Independent Book Store in Neptune Beach.

The book is now available in multiple formats at the St. Johns County Public Library System. For further information or to place a hold on a copy the book, call the local branch library or visit www.sjcppls.org.

New record set for graduation rates at Duval County Schools

Duval County Public Schools recently announced it has set a new record for the district's graduation rate.

Now at 85.1 percent, schools in 2018 bumped the district's average by more than 4 percentage points compared to 2017.

The results released in December by the Florida Department of Education include other records in all Duval County sub-group areas. Record-high graduation rates include:

- African American students: 83.2 percent graduation rate; up 6.4 points over last year.
- Hispanic students: 84.3 percent graduation rate; up 3.2 points over last year.
- English language learners: 82.3 percent graduation rate; up 5.4 points over last year.
- Low socioeconomic students: 79.5 percent graduation rate; 6 points over last year.
- Students with disabilities: 77.1 percent graduation rate; up 6.4 points over last year.

"Jacksonville leaders can now point to our school district as an asset in attracting jobs and economic development to our region," Duval County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Diana Greene said. "Our teachers, our school leaders and most important, our students have done the work this community has asked them to do. The world needs to know that the young men and women in our schools are succeeding, and they are ready for college and careers."

According to the district, the record-high graduation rate follows a report on national math and reading assessments earlier this year that identified Duval County Public Schools as one of the leading urban school districts in the nation.

Duval County's graduation rate trajectory continues to rise faster than the state average. Where once Duval students trailed the state average by almost 7 percentage points, today Duval is just a single percentage point behind the state.

"When we increase as we have this year, it has the effect of pushing up the state average," said Dr. Kelly Coker-Daniel, assistant superintendent for accountability and assessment. "When you add more than 7,000 graduates to the state's formula, you drive up

Member of 'Little Rock Nine' to speak at UNF's MLK Scholarship Luncheon Feb. 6

Carlotta Walls LaNier, civil rights icon and National Women's Hall of Fame inductee, will present "A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School" at the University of North Florida (UNF)'s 38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Luncheon Wednesday, Feb. 6.

The event will be held at the Adam W. Herbert University Center, Building 43, Grand Banquet Hall, Room 1044. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. The program begins at noon and will be followed by a book signing.

According to UNF, LaNier was the youngest member of a group of African-American students, the "Little Rock Nine," that integrated Arkansas' Central High School in 1957 following the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on segregation in Brown vs. Board of Education.

She and the eight other students had to be escorted into the school by the 101st



Carlotta Walls LaNier

Airborne Division as they faced angry mobs, threats and physical danger. Little did she realize that this day was the beginning of a journey that would challenge prevailing attitudes, break down barriers

and forever change the social landscape of America.

In addition to receiving the Congressional Gold Medal and the NAACP's Spingarn Medal — awarded to her as a member of the Little Rock Nine — LaNier is an inductee in the Girl Scouts Women of Distinction, Colorado Women's Hall of Fame and the National Women's Hall of Fame. She serves as president of the Little Rock Nine Foundation, created to promote equality of opportunity for all, particularly in the field of education.

After graduating from Little Rock Central High School in 1960, LaNier attended Michigan State University and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado, which has awarded her an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Tickets for the event are \$30 for individuals. Sponsorship packages include \$500 for supporter-level corporate tables; \$1,000, silver-level corporate tables;

\$2,500, gold-level corporate tables; and \$5,000, platinum-corporate tables. Tickets can be purchased through the UNF Ticket Box Office online, in person at Roy Lasister Hall, Building 8, Room 1100, or by calling (904) 620-2878. For more information visit www.unf.edu/icp/Martin_Luther_King_Jr_Annual_Luncheon.aspx.

For additional event questions, contact Lorna Bautista, UNF's Intercultural Center for Peace (ICP) office manager, by email at lbautist@unf.edu or by calling (904) 620-2475.

This luncheon is an annual event, sponsored by the ICP, where an internationally acclaimed leader is invited to speak and teach about their philosophy of nonviolence to honor Dr. King's ideals. The program also honors and provides scholarships to students whose leadership and service reflect King's teachings. During the program, four student scholarships will be awarded.

Sea turtle population declining on local beaches

By Sai Prakash
Special to the Recorder

St. Johns County is home to a diversity of wildlife including numerous species of endangered or threatened sea turtles.

Each spring, our beaches are buzzing with commotion as sea turtles use the beaches and dunes for nesting and scavenging that continues throughout the summer months. Sea turtle nesting season is from May 1 to Oct. 31. Those who live in and visit St. Johns County have a special opportunity and accountability to protect these magnificent creatures and their vulnerable nesting and feeding sites.

According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, an alarming amount of sea turtle nests have degenerated from around 4,500 in 2017 to 3,200 in 2018. This may not seem like a very large decrease, but it means that we are only left with 71 percent of our original turtle population.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission states that the appraised reasons of decreased population are because of humans disturbing their habitat or death



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

due to the red tide this year. Along with the manmade disasters turtles face, baby turtles need to make their way from their nests into the ocean avoiding the predators. Rescue programs have been employed as well and have been very successful.

Rescue programs are built up by marine turtle patrol volunteers who survey the beaches at sunrise to collect important scientific data on nesting activities. Civilians can volunteer alongside these professionals by contacting the St. Johns County Government at www.sjcf.us/HCP/Volunteer.aspx. (This volunteer program is permitted through Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.)

Here are a few things to look out for and consider come turtle nesting season:

- Beachfront properties should try and reduce interior and exterior lighting from falling onto the beach. Artificial light can trick the turtles and lead them into dangerous situations.
- If you are on a driving area of a beach, be sure to obey the speed limit.
- All flora and fauna are protected by our county and state. If you are found to have upset or disturbed an animal, fines can and will be placed.

Sai Prakash is a student at Landrum Middle School and passionate, aspiring writer.

Duval

Continued from 22

the overall rate. Duval is doing its part to drive the state's success."

In 2012, the district's achievement gap between African American students and all students was 5.4 points. The new data shows that the achievement gap is now 1.9 percent.

"The School Board has placed tremendous importance in working toward equity in educational outcomes," School Board Chairman Lori Hershey said. "Hearing the news that our achievement gaps for African American students, low-income students and all other sub-groups are closing rapidly really speaks to the quality of work happening in our schools."

The improvement in the graduation rate is typically attributed to the work of the district's high schools. Greene stated, however, that the graduation rate is reflective of the efforts of everyone on "Team Duval."

"While our high school principals lead this effort during the last four years of a student's time with us, these record high rates are a reminder of our collective efforts," Greene said. "The high school experience builds on exceptional foundations from elementary and middle school. All of Team Duval should be proud."



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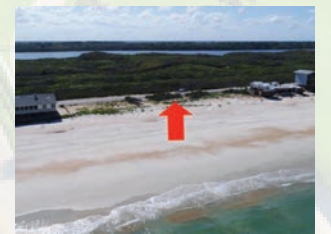
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Business Weekly

PAGE 26

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019

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business news to
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Photos by Susan Griffin

Trasca & Co. Eatery General Manager Karina Coryell and Owner Sara Frasca gather with Trudy Toche of Mary Kay at a Chamber "Before Hours" event on Jan. 9.

Trudy Toche with Mary Kay hosts Chamber 'Before Hours' at Trasca & Co. Eatery

Trudy Toche with Mary Kay hosted/sponsored a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach (PVB) Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Jan. 9.

Held at Trasca & Co. Eatery, the event allowed attendees to network and enjoy breakfast before work.



ABOVE: Jennifer Thomas and Jen Hendrich

LEFT: Matt Price, Carol Maurer and Karen Everett

Saving for education? Consider a 529 Plan

By Karsten Jacobson, CFP®



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

Do you know about 529 savings plans? If not, you are not alone — although these plans have been around since 1996, many people are still unaware of them.

And that's unfortunate, because a 529 plan can be a valuable tool for anyone who wants to help a child, grandchild, friend or other family member save for education expenses.

Here are some of the key benefits of a 529 plan:

- **Potential tax advantages** — A 529 plan's earnings are not subject to federal income taxes, as long as withdrawals are used for qualified elementary, secondary and higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary, such as your child or grandchild. (You will be subject to ordinary income taxes, plus a 10 percent federal penalty, on the earnings portion of withdrawals not used for qualified education expenses.)

JACOBSON continues on Page 28

Florida Airbnb hosts earn \$810 million in 2018

Airbnb announced this week that Floridian hosts and homeowners earned a combined \$810 million in supplemental income while welcoming approximately 4.5 million guest arrivals to the state in 2018 through the platform.

According to the company, Airbnb hosts in St. Johns County earned \$17.2 million in 2018, welcoming 113,000 guests through the platform. The com-

pany says there are now over 45,000 Floridian hosts who share their homes via Airbnb, typically earning about \$6,500 annually in supplemental income.

Airbnb said statewide data indicates that the company and its host community appear to be complementing — rather than competing with — the Florida hotel industry. According to the company, the most recent state-commissioned report

demonstrates that Florida hotel occupancy rates, daily prices and revenue have grown steadily even as local hosts welcomed millions of guests. Airbnb said this suggests that vacation rentals are opening the state to a new slice of prospective tourists by catering to travelers less able to afford hotels, those who desire to stay in neighborhoods or cities that lack hotels, and families who prefer

to be together under one roof.

This most recent announcement comes on the heels of previous Airbnb reports documenting the positive impact of vacation rentals for Floridian senior hosts as well as for rural Florida counties that lack hotels.

At this time, over 932,000 Floridians are Airbnb users (as either hosts or guests).

UNF introducing Center for Entrepreneurship to community

The University of North Florida (UNF) is in the process of unveiling its Center for Entrepreneurship in downtown Jacksonville to its students, partners and the overall community.

Located in the renovated historic Barnett National Bank Building on Adams Street, the Center was made possible by a generous gift of \$1 million from Luther and Blanche Coggin.

“The Coggins have had an enormous impact on the future business leaders in Northeast Florida and beyond with their long history of investing in higher education,” UNF President Dr. David M. Szymanski said. “We are eternally grateful to Luther and Blanche for their efforts to ensure student success.”

According to UNF, the Center will serve as a hub for creativity, business development and learning. The university will occupy two floors of the building, one for classrooms and the other for business development. Classes started the week of Jan. 7 for graduate students within the Coggin College of Business’ Master of Science in Management program; MBA program classes are anticipated to begin in May.

UNF officials said the Center will be a living-learning lab, providing students with opportunities to assist entrepreneurs with market and financial analyses,



Rendering courtesy of SouthEast Development Group/Dasher Hurst Architects

A rendering displays the long-term vision for the University of North Florida (UNF)’s Center for Entrepreneurship in downtown Jacksonville.

statement creation, planning and more. The ultimate objective is to propel local business growth by building a strong and sustainable entrepreneurial climate for the success of UNF students and the community.

According to the university, the Center will function as a place where entrepreneurs can pitch their ideas to a panel of experts in hopes of being selected to

receive office space and support to work through their plans. Support will be provided by UNF faculty and students as well as through involvement of community members.

The Northeast Florida Small Business Development Center and Small Business Administration will also have a presence to connect aspiring business owners with additional resources and advice.

The university has appointed alumna Karen Bowling as the new director of the Center for Entrepreneurship.

“Karen is a strong asset to our University,” Coggin College of Business Dean Dr. Mark Dawkins said. “I’m confident that her extensive management experience will bring the Center great success.”

Bowling, a Riverside resident, has more than 30 years of experience in both public and private companies within the healthcare, government and technology industries. Prior to joining UNF, she served as president of Thrive Consulting, LLC. in Jacksonville where she consulted in the healthcare and government sectors. She previously served as chief administrative officer for the City of Jacksonville, the CEO of 34 Solantic Urgent Care Clinics and in various communication roles at healthcare firms.

She currently serves as chair of the Florida State College of Jacksonville Board of Trustees, as well as a member of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Bowling received a Bachelor of Arts in literature from UNF.

UNF is hosting a grand-opening ceremony for the Center on Feb. 4. The event, however, is not open to the public.

For more information, visit www.unf.edu/coggin/Giving_Back/Center_For_Entrepreneurship.aspx.

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Jacobson

Continued from 26

■ **High contribution limits** — Contribution limits are generally quite high for most states' 529 plans. You could, however, possibly incur gift tax consequences if your contributions, plus any other gifts, to a particular beneficiary exceed \$15,000 during a single year.

■ **Ability to switch beneficiaries** — As the old song goes, "The future is not

ours to see." You might name a particular child or grandchild as a beneficiary of a 529 savings plan, only to see him or her decide not to go to college after all. But as the owner of the plan, you generally may be able to switch beneficiaries whenever you like, right up to the point when they start taking withdrawals. (To make this switch non-taxable and penalty-free, you must designate a new beneficiary who is a member of the same family as the original beneficiary.)

■ **Freedom to invest in any state's**

plan — You can invest in the 529 plan offered by any state, regardless of where you live. But if you invest in your own state's plan, you might receive some type of state tax benefit, such as a deduction or credit. Additional benefits also may be available.

■ **Flexibility in changing investments** — You can switch investment options in your 529 plan up to twice a year. Or, if you'd rather take a more hands-off approach, you could select an automatic age-based or target date option that starts out with a heavier emphasis on growth-oriented investments and shifts toward less risky, fixed-income vehicles as the beneficiary approaches school or college age.

While a 529 plan clearly offers some benefits, it also raises some issues about which you should be aware. For example, when colleges compute financial aid packages, they may count assets in a 529 plan as parental assets, assuming the parents are the plan owners. To clarify the

impact of 529 plans on potential financial aid awards, you might want to consult with a college's financial aid officer.

One final note: In previous years, 529 plans were limited to eligible colleges, universities and trade schools, but starting in 2018, you can also use up to \$10,000 per year, per beneficiary, from a 529 plan to pay for tuition expenses at public, private or religious elementary and secondary schools. (Not all states recognize elementary and secondary school expenses as qualifying for 529 plan benefits, so consult your local tax advisor before investing.)

Education is a great investment in a child's future. And to make that education more affordable, you might want to make your own investment in a 529 plan.

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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GET ORGANIZED

PAGES 29-32

Three weekend organizing projects to kickstart the new year



By Barbara Trapp
Special to the Recorder

Are you ready to get organized in 2019? Create momentum for the rest of the year with these three weekend organizing projects.

Barbara Trapp
Guest Columnist

CLEAR OUT YOUR CLOSETS

Case study:

A friend of mine recently lost enough weight to fit into her old clothes. She proudly slipped on a favorite pair of jeans that had been waiting patiently in the back of her closet. But something was wrong. Sure, they fit, but they were worn (and not in a good way) and out of style too. The same was true for the blouses and skirts. My friend's old clothes were ... OLD. She donated most of them and bought a few new pieces to reward herself.

Tasks:

1. Remove everything from your closet. Retrieve all your clothing — including coats — from other areas of your home as well (guest closets, storage bins, etc.).
2. Sort clothing by type so you can see exactly how much of everything you have.
3. Let go of any piece that is more than two sizes above or below your current size, dated, torn or permanently stained.



Photo by Julie Ryan Photography

Barbara Trapp shares tips for organizing closets, libraries and pantries.

4. Let the remaining pieces earn their way back into your closet. Ask yourself, "If I didn't already own this, would I buy it now?" Donate anything that doesn't make the cut.
5. Hang clothes by type, and then from light to dark with the shirt fronts facing you.

DOWNSIZE YOUR LIBRARY

Case study:

One of my clients had over 500 books on leadership, employee motivation, training, performance improvement and productivity. Some were my favorites too! Whenever she attended seminars or took on new assignments and interests, she

bought more books. Three bulging bookshelves later, her office was too crowded to be functional. Although she loved books, she wanted extra space even more.

We removed all of her books and sorted them by topic. Seeing all her books together gave her a better perspective of what she owned. Not only did she have multiple books on the same topic, in some cases she had duplicates! She donated about half of her library, as well as a bookshelf, and now has room to work and breathe.

Tasks:

1. Gather all of your books in one spot (cookbooks, software manuals or novels).
2. Sort them by topic/genre.
3. Weed out the excess and donate to local charities, libraries or schools as appropriate. Tip: Anything concerning technology gets outdated fast!
4. Organize what's left and designate homes for them. Store them all together or where each genre will be used (cookbooks in the kitchen, business books in the office, etc.).

PURGE YOUR PANTRY

Case study:

I once cleaned out my mother-in-law's pantry as a favor to her (or so I intended). I'd discovered most of the condiments in her refrigerator were at least five

PROJECTS continues on **Page 30**



Closet

Photos courtesy of Barbara Trapp



Pantry

Projects

Continued from 29

years past the expiration date and were a rainbow of colors. Her pantry followed suit with items from a previous decade. Some of the canned food had even burst open! Seven bags of food went out with the trash. I thought I had potentially saved her life.

My mother-in-law, on the other hand, felt violated. She was so upset about the

wasted food (albeit inedible) that she padlocked her pantry during my future visits! This was years before I became a professional organizer and of course my approach is different now. I offer recommendations, but in the end, my clients decide what stays and what goes!

Tasks:

1. Empty out your pantry and dispose of trash.
2. Discard stale dry goods, swollen, dented or rusted cans and any jar with a

bulging lid. Some canned items can be safe to eat past their expiration dates; however much depends on the condition of the container and storage. Acidic foods do not fare so well; the exploded cans I've seen contained pineapple or other acidic foods. Visit usda.gov for more information and then decide what your comfort level is. (Mine is to discard canned foods that are six months past the due date.)

3. Donate what you will not eat. (Some shelters and food pantries will accept

expired foods, some won't.)

4. Clean the shelves. If you have solid shelving instead of wire, consider lining them to keep them clean and quiet.

5. Restock your shelves following the FIFO rule (First In, First Out). Older foods should be in front!

Barbara Trapp is a certified professional organizer®, productivity consultant and life coach serving clients in Northeast Florida. Contact her at info@zenyourden.com or 904-500-SORT (7678). Visit her website at zenyourden.com.

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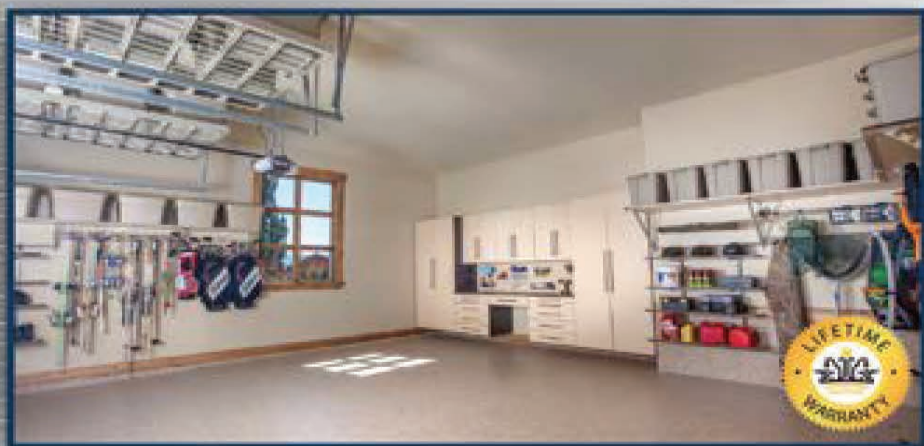
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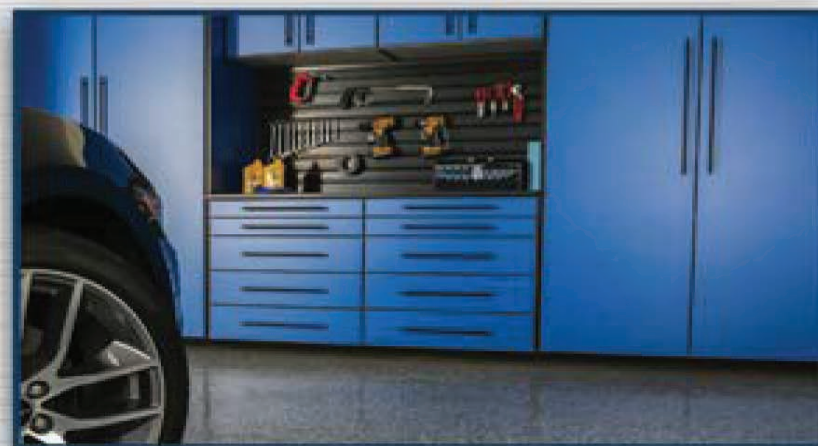
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The unexpected pain of decluttering



By Laura Morey

Head diva, SimpleSolutionsDiva.com

Special to the Recorder

Laura Morey
Guest Columnist

Why is organizing the hardest thing to do for me? It's the "getting started." I have to get to the point where I've had enough of dreading opening that drawer (or closet, or garage). I have to be in the mood — it helps for me to feel ruthless and so irritated by the clutter I am ready to burst.

I believe most people have clutter in their homes; some are just better at hiding it. I know it's a problem because there are people who make a living helping others get organized. Marie Kondo, the Japanese organizing queen, has a new series on Netflix, helping people navigate the difficult (and emotional) task of decluttering. Many of my friends try to follow her guidelines for organizing, but in reality, who has the time to acknowledge every item, ask if it "sparks joy" and then "thank it" as it gets donated.

So, what should you do? My solution was to work with professional organizer, member of NAPO (National Association of Productivity & Organizing Professionals) and Atlantic Beach resident Christine Stone of Neatly Designed (neatlydesigned.com).

Four years ago, I asked Christine (Chris) to be part of my "Clear The Clutter" video series. I thought it would be great content AND would be an easy way to address the clutter spots in my home. First project — tackle my craft closet (aka my anxiety closet). I thought the process would be straightforward — tackle the closet, Chris gives great tips to declutter and organize and BOOM, we're done.

What I didn't expect were the tears, weird hot flashes and ridiculous attachments to things like fuzzy balls and googly eyes. I discovered there's usually a reason why people hold on to seemingly meaningless things. For me, my oldest left for college and letting go of items in the craft closet meant an end to a sweet phase of her life (and mine!). Thankfully, Chris turned out to be part organizer, part comedian and part counselor.

Recently, I reached out to Chris about organizing as a New Year's resolution. She made the point that it really shouldn't be a resolution at all. It should be a part of your everyday life. Now most of us will need to do a deep purge to get things initially started, but once you get organized, you'll be thankful. Her top tips for organizing and keeping things organized are the following:

Keep like items together: This one step will prevent buying what you already own. Who hasn't bought items, then a month later found more of the same, squirreled away in their closet or junk drawer?

Have a place for everything: Clutter can become overwhelming if there is not a place for items you want to keep. If you know where things are, you'll save time and frustration.

The purge — Do you need it, use it, love it or have room to store it: Ask yourself these questions when deciding what to keep and what to let go. If you are stuck at this stage, bring in a professional like Chris to help you get over yourself and move on.

Scan and shred: To minimize paper clutter, scan items into your computer and shred old paperwork. Again, a professional organizer can set up a system that makes sense to you, making this task less daunting.

Label: Labeling is not just for organizers; it is a system that will keep you organized and save you time and money. Two years ago, I labeled every Christmas decor box I had, and it has saved me time and stress with the holiday tree trimming and breakdown.

After the process of decluttering and organizing, I found I felt lighter, calmer, had less anxiety and more time and energy to spend on doing things I wanted to do. I realized the piles of clutter paralyzed me; it felt good to move forward again. So as I embark on another organizing binge, I will focus on that positive feeling. (And if you don't hear from me for awhile, tell the search party to start in my office.)

Laura Morey is a writer, public relations professional and creator of SimpleSolutionsDiva.com, a website with how-to videos on simplifying things in the home, kitchen, garden and more. Check out her "Clear The Clutter" tips at simplesolutionsdiva.com/category/clear-the-clutter



Displayed is an example of creating a place for everything.



Displayed are a few examples of organizing around the home.

Photos courtesy of Laura Morey



Art courtesy of Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Galleries
Displayed is a piece from award-winning Chinese artist Tang Wei Min, who is visiting Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Galleries in Ponte Vedra Beach (Sawgrass Village) Jan. 25-26 for a personal appearance and opening of an exhibition displaying his work.

Cutter & Cutter to host artist Tang Wei Min, open exhibition of his work

Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Galleries will host award-winning Chinese artist Tang Wei Min at their location in Ponte Vedra Beach (Sawgrass Village) Friday and Saturday, Jan. 25-26, for a personal appearance and opening of an exhibition that displays his work.

Wei Min is known for his classically rendered paintings of traditional heritages, with his work including portraits and narrative scenes. According to Cutter & Cutter, Wei Min's work has been compared to many of the old masters, including Rembrandt and Vermeer. The local business said the artist fell in love with Western oil painting tradition because of Rembrandt, admiring his ability to light his subjects and portray their inner thoughts.

Cutter & Cutter said Wei Min has combined these Western art traditions with an Eastern philosophy and the ability

CUTTER & CUTTER continues on **Page 34**

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Saint Augustine Film Festival to be held Jan. 17-20

Ninth annual event will feature 47 films, four screening locations and more than a dozen filmmakers

By Jon Blauvelt

The first year Gregory von Hausch organized the Saint Augustine Film Festival, he said you could have fired a canon at Lewis Auditorium and probably not hit anyone. Nine years later, the festival's audience has grown exponentially, and this year's event boasts more films and filmmakers than ever.

"There's something for everyone to enjoy," said von Hausch, who is the president and CEO of the Fort Lauderdale Film Festival, which produces the Saint Augustine Film Festival. "Hopefully the people will come out for it. I think they'll enjoy it."

Running Thursday, Jan. 17 through Sunday, Jan. 20, the ninth annual Saint Augustine Film Festival features 47 films, including features, documentaries and short films. Films will be played at four screening locations in St. Augustine, including the Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, all three theaters at the Corazon Cinema and Café and the Gamache-Koger Theater inside the Ringhaver Student Center at Flagler. New this year, the St. Augustine Distillery will host a special screening on Thursday night. Thursday is a special preview day for All Access and All Films Passholders only.

According to von Hausch, this year's festival features an eclectic list of films, ranging from comedy to drama, thriller, suspense and more. The opening night film at Lewis Auditorium on Friday is "The Return of the Hero," featuring Jean Dujardin, who won the Academy Award for Best Actor in 2012 for the film, "The Artist."

The centerpiece film on Saturday evening will be "Fiddlin'" — a documentary about the world's oldest fiddler's convention in the Appalachian Mountains. Writer and producer Vicki Vlasic will attend along with a musician/dancer in the film, Martha Spencer. The closing night film is the Canadian documentary, "Sharkwater Extinction," which is about



Racing legend Hurley Haywood will be in attendance of the Saint Augustine Film Festival to discuss his film, "Hurley."



Photos courtesy of Saint Augustine Film Festival
Actor and director Karen Allen will be showing her directorial debut, "A Tree. A Rock. A Cloud."

the illegal shark fin industry. The filmmaker Rob Stewart died in a scuba diving accident while shooting the film in Florida last year.

The festival will also have something to offer for kids, such as the film, "Aldabra: Once Upon An Island." Narrated by Pierce Brosnan, this 3D family theatrical feature film takes viewers on a journey to a magical coral island via the lens of giant tortoises, crabs, sharks and more fun characters.

More than a dozen filmmakers, actors or people who are the focus of documentaries will be in attendance of the festival, including actor and director Karen Allen. She will be showing her directorial debut, "A Tree. A Rock. A Cloud." According to von Hausch, the festival will also show a retrospective of her life/career. Allen will also be holding a benefit at the screening of "Raiders of the Lost Ark" on Saturday for the St. Johns County Center for the Arts and the performing arts program at St. Augustine High School.

Local celebrities in attendance will include, among others, racing legend Hurley Haywood, whose documentary, "Hurley," focuses on his life and decision to publicly come out as gay. Several of Haywood's race cars will be parked in the piazza outside Lewis Auditorium on Saturday. The racing legend will participate in a question and answer session after his film is shown on Saturday, as well as a privately ticketed event before and after the screening to raise funds for two local United Way charities, Port in the Storm and EPIC.

FESTIVAL continues on **Page 34**



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Festival

Continued from 33

Festival passes, perks and information about the festival can be found online at www.StAugFilmFest.com. You can also read daily updates on Facebook at www.facebook.com/staugfilmfest. Advance tickets to individual films screening at Lewis Auditorium are now available

online. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 prior to the screening of any movie, subject to availability. The order of entry is passholders at 20 minutes prior to screening, advanced ticket purchase holders 15 minutes before a film and then all remaining seats are sold to the general public.

Overall, von Hausch is most looking forward to the cornucopia of experiences that the festival will produce.

“The cars, people performing, music

and dancing, doing things at the Distillery, using different venues, having the stars talk about their films,” von Hausch said. “I try to create an experience that is really multi-dimensional. That’s what I really want to get out of this thing.

“And for people to realize, films aren’t just about special effects and super heroes and comic books,” von Hausch continued. “They’re about everything in the human experience.”

Cutter & Cutter

Continued from 33

to create dramatic tension in the contrast between light and dark.

“His paintings contain the power of silence, strength, purity and simplicity ... yet he creates portraits full of drama,” Cutter & Cutter stated on its website.

The exhibition will be displayed at Cutter & Cutter through February. For more information and to RSVP, call (904) 395-3759 or visit www.cutterandcutter.com.



Art courtesy of Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Galleries

Displayed is a piece from award-winning Chinese artist Tang Wei Min, who is visiting Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Galleries in Ponte Vedra Beach (Sawgrass Village) Jan. 25-26 for a personal appearance and opening of an exhibition displaying his work.

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Sports



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019 • PAGE 35 www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

PVHS boys basketball drops 3 games last week

By Jim Moyes
Special to the Recorder

After a promising start to the 2018-19 basketball season, the Ponte Vedra Sharks have now dropped nine of their last 12 games, including three in a row last week to see their season record fall to 6-10.

What was especially troublesome was that two of their losses last week were against teams they had defeated on the road earlier in the season.

It was painfully obvious that the Sharks missed their season's leading scorer Ben Houser, who is out indefinitely with an ankle sprain. Poor shooting in losses last week to Clay, Bartram Trail and Creekside — where Ponte Vedra was held to under 42 points in each contest — contributed to a disappointing week of action.

After the first half of action in their first game following a long holiday break was completed, it looked like the Sharks were well on their way to an easy road victory

against Clay. A 17-point Shark lead just moments before halftime quickly evaporated, however, as the Sharks were only able to score a miniscule two points in the third quarter.

A 3-pointer canned at the third-quarter buzzer gave the Blue Devils a lead they would never again relinquish as the hosts pulled away to earn a 44-35 victory. Reese Russi with 13 and Luke Martin with 10 points were in double figures for the losers, but the six remaining players employed by coach Bud Beech were only able to score a combined 12 tallies.

A return to their home court did little to energize the Sharks as they lost convincingly 51-37 to a Bartram Trail team the locals had defeated in the season opener. Outscored in every quarter by the visiting Bears, only Luke Martin's 13 points were in double figures in a game in which coach Beech used 11 players to find a winning combination.

With Creekside coming to the Shark Tank

the following evening — a team the Sharks had defeated 49-41 before the holiday break — the Sharks were confident of a repeat victory. That was not to be as once again the Sharks suffered. Not only from some woeful shooting, the Sharks were also soundly outrebounded by Creekside 32-12.

The loss could have been more one-sided as Creekside was only able to convert on a dismal 12 of 26 at the free throw line as the Knights won but their fifth game of the season.

The Sharks are hopeful that a near week's respite will revise the potential the Sharks displayed earlier in the season. A dubious task awaits Ponte Vedra Thursday night as the team travels to Palatka to play a state-ranked Panthers team that reached the final four last season and currently boasts an enviable 12-2 record. Although losing to Palatka earlier in the season at home, it arguably was the best played game of the season for the Sharks in a hard fought 70-65 loss.

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JAGA First Coast Amateur to feature national, multi-national field at Hidden Hills

The Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA)'s First Coast Amateur is set for this weekend at Hidden Hills Golf Club in Jacksonville.

A field of 78 amateur golfers ranging in age from 16 to 64 is scheduled to compete over Martin Luther King holiday weekend, Jan. 19-21. The contestants represent 16 states, 25 colleges and eight countries. Of the 78 contestants, 61 have indexes of 0 or less.

Defending champion Cole Bradley of Purdue University returns to defend his title. He will be playing the First Coast Amateur for the third time. Bradley is joined by six Purdue teammates. The Boilermakers are coached by Bradley's dad, Rob, who formerly was assistant golf

coach at the University of North Florida (2009-12).

The youngest competitors are a trio of 16-year-olds — Gordan Brixi of Potomac, Maryland, Nicholas Hofman of Lafayette, Indiana and Alexander Waller of Jacksonville. Waller will represent the North Florida Junior Golf Tour. The Bishop Kenny student earned his spot based on his runner-up finish in the recent First Coast Junior Amateur (ages 16-18) played at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.

The senior-most contestants are former JAGA Jacksonville Amateur champion Mike Bodney of Jacksonville and 2011 JAGA Senior Amateur champion John Milton of Jacksonville, who will captain next month's Underwood Cup Amateur



Defending First Coast Amateur champion Cole Bradley of Purdue University returns to the JAGA 2019 First Coast Amateur, which is being held Jan. 19-21 at Hidden Hills Golf Club.

Photo courtesy of JAGA

Team for the second year in a row. Both are 64.

The championship is 54 holes of stroke play, with 18 holes on Saturday, Sunday and Monday of the holiday weekend. All competitors will play for the First Coast Amateur title, with the 12 mid-amateurs (age 25+) vying for a second title.

Top finishers will be awarded World Amateur Golf Ranking points for the second year in a row.

The First Coast Amateur is sponsored and conducted by JAGA, which annually promotes Jacksonville's top-level amateur competitions and has since 1954. It is the only JAGA-run event that is promoted nationally and features multi-state and

multi-national participants.

Co-chairmen for the 2019 JAGA First Coast Amateur are JAGA directors Joel Lamp (Associate) and Jeff Adams (TPC Sawgrass). Fellow director Jim Kavanagh (St. Johns Golf & CC) is overseeing all aspects of tournament set-up, rules and competition.

Kavanagh (FSGA) will be supported by a group of rules experts. They include (with current or former affiliations in parentheses): Duke Butler III (PGA TOUR/PGA), Tommy Dudley (USGA), Jeff Elledge (JAGA), Ken Hicks (Northern Calif. GA), Bill Hughes (Northern Chapter of North Florida PGA) and Ray Mantle (FSGA).

first coast

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THEME: SUPER BOWL

ACROSS

- Hose hue
- Flower precursor
- Gershwin brother
- Scottish valley
- After hedge or mutual
- Headquartered
- *Cleats, helmet, pads
- Hip bones
- Road-tripping guide
- *Hometown of first Super Bowl winner
- Big Bang's original matter
- Be
- Bygone bird
- *Last year's Super Bowl champions
- Came around the corner
- 100%
- Donate, 2 words
- Salty drop
- #50 Down, pl.
- Mythical giant bird
- Latin dance
- A famous Amos
- Packing a punch
- In the know
- Relating to River Styx
- Sodium ____ or Nal
- Needlefish
- Beta's follower
- Phishing attack
- *NFL Trophy name

DOWN

- Bird-to-be
- Horsefly
- Infantry's last rows
- Unwind
- Precursor to #5 Across, pl.
- Uniate church member
- June 6, 1944
- Small island
- Paper unit
- *As entertaining as Super Bowl game?
- Last line to cross
- Louisiana swamp
- *Home of Mercedes-Benz Stadium
- *Goodell and such
- "My" in French
- Sunrise side, pl.
- Give out
- 1989 Civil War drama
- *Player with most Super Bowl points scored
- Completely or exactly
- Adam and Eve's son
- U, on the road
- Casts a ballot
- Barn top?
- Do like exhaust pipe
- *2019 Super Bowl broadcasting network
- Tally
- *Player's 40, e.g.

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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. Capital territory of India
 28. Alleviated
 29. Window treatment
 32. *Grid____
 33. Leprechaun's gold holder
 36. *Popular Super Bowl nickname
 38. Pore in a leaf
 40. Even ____ in golf
 41. Jack be that!
 44. Poetic feet

46. Flitted
 48. Spoil
 49. Change the Constitution
 50. No neatnik
 51. Butcher's piece, pl.
 52. Mount Veniaminof output
 53. Russian governmental agency
 54. Pupil controller
 55. Pipe material
 58. Indefinite degree

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