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Recorder

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HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS

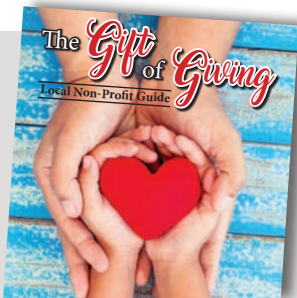


Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty hosted its third annual first responders appreciation luncheon at its office in Ponte Vedra Beach last week. *Flip to page 7 for more.*

Photo by Amber Lake

Gift of Giving

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SALLY TOOTH FAIRY
May 7, 2018



JOHNNY'S BIRTHDAY
May 1, 2018

Business Weekly

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Love Your Smile

Pages 30-31



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WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jonb@opcfla.com by Monday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

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



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Ashe is an 8-month-old female cat who was brought to the Pet Center to find a new home. Ashe is friendly



and playful; however, it is wise to give pets time to adjust in a new environment. Come visit Ashe at the Pet Center today. #48665



DOG OF THE WEEK

Ruby is a 2-year-old female mixed breed dog who is looking for a new home. She was brought to the Pet

Center as a stray, which means there still may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit Ruby today at the Pet Center. #45896

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 \$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

D	O	G	S		L	S	D		F	I	L	M				
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6	2	1	3	5	4	7	8	9
7	9	5	6	8	1	3	2	4
5	4	6	7	2	8	9	3	1
2	1	9	4	6	3	8	5	7
8	3	7	1	9	5	4	6	2

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

Discover something **NEW!**

AFRICAN FOREST

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Local family lends grandfather's work to Cummer Museum for centennial of World War I

Edmund Greacen paints the destruction of France during the Great War

By Amber Lake

WWI France: Even four years after the destruction of the Reims Cathedral by Germany in 1914, rubble littered the streets.

The town that had been bombarded with artillery laid in ruins around it. The colossal Reims Cathedral was the epitome of gothic architecture. Built in 1211, the structure was wrapped in elaborate façade and meticulous stained glass — all ravaged in the war. This needless destruction of the historic jewel of the city was the perfect fodder for allied propagandists to show the world the disparity between Germany's actions and its supposed "Kultur"-minded philosophy. Political artists from all over the allied nations depicted the ruined church, devastated and dripping with irony, to the rest of the world.

Edmund Greacen, an American Impressionist painter, found a spot in the dust and rocks and started painting what was left of the cathedral. He wasn't interested in the politics or symbolism behind the tortured building, although he did travel to France to help the Allied cause. Greacen was more fascinated in the way the light touched the surface on this cloudy, gray day. He paints quick and with a purpose only an impressionist knows. Afterward, he packs up and leaves, throwing his paintings together in haste. The year was 1918.

Today, 100 years later, these works sit in an exhibit at the Cummer Museum in Jacksonville. The subject of the show is "Edmund Greacen and World War I." It is a complication of his oil sketches while on the battle fields of France during World War I. Due to the fact Greacen was 42 at the time, he couldn't enlist so he donated his time with the "Foyer du Soldats," which is comparative to the YMCA. It provided relief for soldiers during combat. During his stint with the organization, he painted the world around him, sketching out the destruction as he went from town to town. When he left, he arrived home with 25 oil paintings in a knapsack, some still wet and stuck together, a bottle of French champagne and two empty 75-millimeter artillery shell casings.

Edmund Greacen's family, his granddaughters Renee Faure and Nancy Faure, hold the bulk of his collection today. Renee lives in a modest townhome in Neptune beach. Walking inside her home, however, one could be confused that they were in a small gallery. The walls in the brightly-lit living room are adorned with striking works of art, trimmed in antique gold frames. Some can be found leaning



ABOVE: Local residents Renee and Nancy Faure stand with their grandfather Edmund Greacen's self-portrait, painted in 1898. Greacen's work is currently on display at the Cummer Museum in Jacksonville.



LEFT: Dreanna Faure Bane stands with her great-grandfather Edmund Greacen's painting of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Photos courtesy of Renee Faure

on walls, others in closets and under beds. One had to be meticulously restored after falling over and breaking in half. They are works of a master, but they are also loved and living with family.

Greacen's work started garnering widespread acclaim many years after his death in 1949. In 1972, his works finally saw the light of day when about 300 paintings that were falling into disrepair in the family's attic in White Plains, New York were discovered. They were held there by Greacen's wife, Ethol, who died 20 years

after him and couldn't "bare to part with them," according to Renee. During the height of their popularity, one painting could bring in upwards of \$80,000 at auction.

The collection on display at the Cummer reflects Greacen's work during his time roaming through France during World War I. It is notable for its fixation on the allure of his surroundings, rather than the barbarism of war.

"There are no bodies, there is no gore," said Dreanna Faure Bane, great-grand-

daughter of Greacen. "There is no blood at all. His vision was more the visual of beauty instead of that."

Greacen's vision of the brutal landscape around him was romanticized. The hazy imagery and low contrast, limited palette of his paintings gives his work more of a dream-like characteristic rather than a realization of the nightmare that the war was. As to why Greacen painted this way while seeing the horror first hand can only be speculated. Reading his letters home, however, it is clear that he always held France closely in his heart.

"I think he was a little idealistic about the war," Renee said. "His letter from the ship board on his way to France actually says, 'If France is the way I remember it, I am going to try to arrange for us to spend another year here.' He had not even arrived yet. War had been raging for about three years already. News didn't travel as fast in those days. He probably just didn't realize."

Greacen had spent an idyllic time in France during his younger years from 1906 to 1910 living in an American Impressionist colony in Giverny, which surrounded Claude Monet's home. There, he spent his days painting with other (soon to be) famous artists like Frederick Frieseke and Karl Anderson. It was during that time his wife gave birth to his daughter, Nan (Renee and Nancy's mother). The paintings from that time period reflect the calm beauty of his surroundings. Scenes show Ethol languishing in a boat, rolling lush hills of grass and the little crystalline stream that Monet had diverted from the Seine to create his waterlily garden.

Perhaps in an effort to recall this period of his life and the France that he remembered, he embraced the aesthetic of the landscape rather than focusing on the devastation. Although, it's also possible that was just who Greacen was. It could be reasoned that he just wasn't artistically interested in the grim confusion that surrounded him.

"He wanted to be in the environment as he saw it, as opposed to painting in his head," Renee said. "A lot of artists just want to be very emotional about things, he just wanted to look out there. He saw beauty and that's what he was looking for. He saw that everywhere."

After Greacen died, he didn't just leave behind hundreds of pieces of work but generations of artists. His daughter, Nan Greacen Faure, created still life oil paintings in New York before retiring in Ponte Vedra. Her daughter, Renee Faure, is a successful painter and her daughter, Dreanna Faure Bane, is a fashion designer who owns the online retail company, House of Jaguar.

County Commission votes in favor of drafting ordinance on short-term vacation rentals

By Amber Lake

The St. Johns County Commission voted 5-0 on Feb. 5 in favor of drafting an ordinance to review for the regulation of short-term rentals.

The ordinance would deal with issues arising from the proliferation of short-term rentals in key areas of St. Johns County.

The St. Johns County Growth Management staff presented the discussion item on the agenda, which they had based on input regarding compatibility issues related to the rentals. The discussion item was comprised of material gathered from an online survey, a recent community meeting and research conducted on similar jurisdictions. Staff defined short-term vacation rentals as Airbnbs, VRBOs and vacation rentals.

The intention of the ordinance is to address issues of over-occupancy, trash generation, parking, noise complaints, traffic increase and fire and emergency evacuation risks associated with street parking. In addition, the county could enforce registration of responsible owners to contact them in the event of complaints, as well as the tracking of payment of tourist development taxes. The inspection and enforcement of the plan, however, remains to be discussed in terms of cost to the county. The new draft would investigate the details regard-



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

ing these issues and present different options to be reviewed by the commission.

Public comment was mixed during the meeting.

Vivian Browning, president of Vilano Beach Main Street and member of the National Association of Realtors, was hesitant to enact an ordinance quickly.

“Many use vacation rentals to earn money into retirement,” Browning said. “Those of us that have vacation rentals, we are just regular people. We feel like this needs more consideration, not action today.”

Other realtors, like Christina Candler of TurnKey Vacation Rentals, said, “I would like to echo my colleagues and say that most vacation rental owners would be open to regulation as long as they are common sense and easy to follow and easy to enforce.” Candler also added that, “Typically vacation rentals are the prettiest homes on the block, that’s because we want them that way. We want to protect the homeowner’s asset.”

Jeb Smith, county commissioner of District 2, suggested that more information be gathered in terms of cost analysis before proceeding. He also stated that he would like to see “exceptions be considered” in terms of condos and homeowner-occupied rentals.

Butler Beach resident Leslie Shapiro said there needs to be some regulation with the rentals, which she believes have gotten out of control. She asked that the commission “not allow this to continue” and to “please save our neighborhoods.”

“We are a neighborhood without neighbors,” Shapiro said.

Ponte Vedra Democratic Club elects new officers

The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club elected new officers for the next two years at its meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 13. They are as follows:

- Erica Connor – President
- Ed Warren – Vice President
- Jan Kary – Vice President
- Bill Tunstall – Treasurer
- Charlene Garrity – Secretary

Additional club members will be appointed for various leadership roles by the club’s president.



Photo courtesy of Jan Kary

Newly-elected Ponte Vedra Democratic Club President Erica Connor and outgoing President Laura Atkinson

New UNF poll shows Curry outpaces Brosche in Jacksonville mayoral race

Majority say crime is most important issue facing city

The Public Opinion Research Lab at the University of North Jacksonville has a new poll of likely voters that reveals Republican incumbent Lenny Curry is in the lead for the upcoming mayoral election in Jacksonville, with Anna Lopez Brosche a distant second. The survey also shows that a majority of respondents believe crime is the most important issue facing Jacksonville today.

The poll, comprised of likely Jacksonville voters, shows that 52 percent of respondents plan to vote for Curry. Regarding the other mayoral Republican candidates, 15 percent plan to vote for Brosche and 3 percent for Jimmy Hill. Six percent of likely voters plan to vote for Omega Allen, the only candidate without a party affiliation, 3 percent indicated that they would vote for another candidate and 22 percent don’t know who their choice will be for mayor.

Among Democrats, 25 percent indicate they plan to vote for Curry, 25 percent for Brosche, 12 percent for Allen and 2 percent for Hill. Thirty-two percent of Democratic likely voters don’t know for whom they’ll cast their vote. Of Republican likely voters, 78 percent say they will vote for Curry, while only 4 percent indicate they’ll vote for Brosche, 4 percent for Hill and 1 percent for Allen. Thirteen percent don’t know.

Additionally, the poll shows that 62 percent of likely voters in Jacksonville believe crime is the most important issue facing Jacksonville, followed by education at 13 percent. Of those who believe crime is the most important issue, 58 percent plan to vote for Curry, while 13 percent plan to vote for Brosche. Of likely voters who said education is the most important issue, 51 percent plan to vote for Curry and 14 percent plan to vote for Brosche.

“The election is upon us, absentee ballots have been mailed out and early voting begins in less than two weeks,” said Dr. Michael Binder, faculty director of the Public Opinion Research Lab at UNF. “It’s very late in the game to dramatically change the narrative of these races.”

When asked who they would vote for in the 2019 election for Jacksonville Sheriff, 56 percent said they would vote for Mike Williams, the incumbent Republican, while 33 percent of likely voters claimed they would vote for Tony Cummings, the Democrat. For the Property Appraiser election, 57 percent indicated they would vote for Jerry Holland, the incumbent Republican, and 28 percent for Kurt Kraft, the Democrat. In the election for Tax Collector, incumbent Republican Jim Overton has 47 percent, followed by Democrat John R. Crescimbeni at 35 percent.

In the Jacksonville City Council At Large elections, there was a great deal of variation. For At Large Group 1, Lisa King, the Democrat, is ahead with 32 percent, followed by the Republican candidates: Jack Daniels, Terrance Freeman and Gary Barrett, with 10 percent, 5 percent, and 5 percent, respectively. A large number of likely voters — 45 percent — aren’t sure where they’ll cast their vote. In At Large Group 2, 36 percent of likely voters indicated they would vote for Republican Ron Salem and 35 percent for Democrat Darren Mason, with 29 percent undecided.

In the election for At Large Group 3, incumbent Democrat Tommy Hazouri is ahead with 38 percent, followed by Republican Greg Rachal at 26 percent. The other Democrat, James C. Jacobs, has 12 percent, and 25 percent don’t know. At Large Group 4’s candidates are all Republicans, with Matt Carlucci at 43 percent, Don Redman at 14 percent and Harold McCart at 3 percent of likely voters. Forty percent are undecided. In At Large Group 5, 31 percent of likely voters indicated they would vote for Samuel Newby, the incumbent Republican, followed by Chad Evan McIntyre, the Democrat, with 29 percent. The candidate with no party affiliation, Niki Brunson, is at 6 percent and 34 percent don’t know.

“All of the races, and especially the At Large Council seats, have large proportions of ‘don’t know’ responses,” Binder noted. “Also, it’s important to remember for races with multiple candidates, if nobody gets to 50 percent, there will be a run-off for the top two candidates in May.”

For details about the methodology of the survey and additional cross-tabs by partisanship, sex, education, race and age, go to www.unf.edu/coas/porl/2019JaxSpeaks.aspx.

Scott Beaver is the new Northeast District commander of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office. He succeeds Brian Harrington, who recently retired from the agency. Beaver lives right off U.S. Route 1 at the county line.

Cmdr. Scott Beaver

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I grew up in St. Augustine. I've been here in the area my whole life. My family goes back a long way. Some of my family was actually part of the Royal Family at one point in St. Augustine. I went through our school system and graduated from St. Augustine High School. Right out of high school, I went into the military. I stayed in the military for about 13 years. I was full-time in the National Guard and worked at Camp Blanding. Then Sheriff Neil Perry was also in the Guard. He got me interested in law enforcement. I went through the academy and decided to leave the military and come on full-time here at the Sheriff's Office in 1994. I also have a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice administration.

What has your career path been at the Sheriff's Office?

I started in patrol, and then I worked in our homicide unit for a few years. I went back to patrol and got promoted to sergeant. I stayed in patrol for a while, and then I was transferred to run the drug unit for several years. I went back to the road for a little while, and then the district concept that we have now was born. So, I went to a district support sergeant role in the Southwest part of the county. I stayed there, got promoted to lieutenant and eventually to commander in the Southwest. Then, I went up to the Northwest to be commander there for a short period of time. When Brian retired, I took over for him as commander of the Northeast.

What are your goals as commander of the Northeast District?

When you ask a cop that question, the answers are typically lower crime rate, making citizens feel safe and secure in their own communities, etc. I want those things, but I also want our deputies to become part of our community. I want our deputies to stop their cars, get out, talk to our citizens. If they see some kids playing basketball or football, I want them to get out and spend 10 minutes with those kids and build that relationship, the trust between law enforcement and the community. Building that trust and relationship with the community is a big part of our job. It's not putting people in jail, writing tickets to speeders. That's not our whole job. Quite honestly, we can't be as successful as we are without the community's help. It takes both of us to solve crimes. I want that relationship so they never hesitate to pick that telephone up to call us. That's my biggest goal: Just get back to the basics of the good old-fashioned law enforcement.

What have you learned so far about the Northeast District?

One of the things that really sticks out in the Northeast is how much the community embraces law enforcement. There's not a day that goes by that somebody doesn't thank you for what you do or stop and talk with you. If you go out and eat lunch somewhere, somebody is always trying to buy your lunch. I think 97 percent of our citizens in our county feel that way. That's one of the biggest things I see here. Another thing is the growth. The Northeast is blowing up with growth. I think the next thing is probably the traffic. It's just getting unbelievable.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

What are some of the challenges the District faces?

The challenge is the growth. How do we manage that? How do we continue to provide the service that our citizens deserve and expect with the growth? What I mean by that is, I don't want our agency to get too big too fast, where we're just call to call to call. We're customer-service based. We're a full-service agency. That's what we do. I want us to be able to spend that five, seven, eight minutes with somebody to make them feel their issue is important, regardless of what it is. It's important for them to call, so it's important for us to listen. So being on the command staff, our job is to come up with plans to manage that growth. I don't think people realize the Northeast District starts at State Road 16 and I-95, and it goes all the way up to the Duval County

line. That's a big distance. So, it's managing the agency's growth, as well as the community's growth, so we can continue to provide that service. That's our biggest challenge.

Outside of the Sheriff's Office, what do you like to do in your free time?

I have grown up in the outdoors my whole life. I love to go offshore fishing. One of my vacations every year is to Venice, Louisiana, where we go offshore in the Gulf to fish. I also enjoy hunting. When you're out there, it's just nice to get away. Sometimes, it's nice to let go.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR hosts first responders luncheon

By Amber Lake

First responders visited Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty (HSFNR) by the busload last Wednesday, Feb. 13, to have a homemade lunch at the business' Ponte Vedra Beach office in Sawgrass Village.

Attendees included firefighters, paramedics and local police officers. All first responders enjoyed slow roasted pork, broccoli salad and a meat and cheese Stromboli.

The third annual luncheon is aimed at not only showing appreciation for first responders but allowing the community to interact with them and ask questions.

"I love it; this is a fun event to come to and (they) take care of us," said Lt. Doug Shatzel of St. Johns County Fire Rescue. "We love eating and we love the food. We also love coming out to the community to talk to people. We are able to share some of our stories and answer some of their questions that people have."

According to Bill Irwin, who organized the event, over 30 first responders showed up over the course of the day to dine at Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR. Afterward, Irwin and the Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR team delivered leftovers to stations with responders who were unable to attend.

Included with lunch, Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR also gifted door prizes, which included Nona Blue gift cards, THE PLAYERS Championship tickets, Metro Diner baskets, a Hilton Garden Inn complimentary stay and a Sawgrass Marriott gift card. Peterbrooke Chocolatier, Florida Network Property Management, Prosperity Home Mortgage, 2-10 Home Warranty, Gibraltar Title and Kuhn Flowers were also sponsors of the event.



ABOVE: First responders attend the appreciation luncheon at Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR on Feb. 13.

LEFT: A poster from local students commemorates the work of the first responders.

Photos by Amber Lake

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AND

JIMMIE DALE GILMORE
(OF THE FLATLANDERS)

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Thursday, Feb. 21	Friday, Feb. 22	Saturday, Feb. 23	Sunday, Feb. 24
<p>College Fair The Ponte Vedra High School PTO is presenting its annual College Fair at the school on Feb. 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. Representatives from an estimated 100 colleges are expected to be on hand to meet with students and their parents. Additionally, two breakout sessions, "Money for College" by the Florida Department of Education and "College Admissions: What You Need to Know" with local advisor Amy Sack will be offered twice at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. The event is free and open to the community. Students are encouraged to pre-register for automation, a one-step process that shares their profile with all the schools of their choosing at the fair. That link can be found at www.gotocollegefairs.com/florida. Ponte Vedra High School is located at 460 Davis Park Road in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>Grief support group A grief support group meets on the third Thursday of every month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Room 102 of the Family Life Center, 578 First Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. For information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p>'Girls Night: The Musical' "Girls Night: The Musical" is a touching and hilarious "tell-it-like-it-is" musical that takes audiences on a journey into the lives of a group of female friends. Audience members can't help but laugh, cry and even find themselves singing and dancing in the aisles as some of the most popular hit songs of the 80s and 90s, making this musical a fan favorite. Hosted by the FSCJ Artists Series, this event will run from Feb. 21 to 23 at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets can be bought at fscjartistsseries.org.</p>	<p>Planetarium Night Live presents 'The Sky ... It Figures: The Legends in the Stars' The Museum of Science and History (MOSH) and the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium present "Planetarium Night Live," a new program that will help expand attendee's minds and go on an cosmic exploration during immersive, live discussions and demonstrations. Different people in different places imagined different figures in the exact same starry sky. Jump into the mind of ancient people long ago as they looked up at the mystery-filled dome overhead. The program is for ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$5 for museum members and \$10 for non-members. The program is from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the MOSH and is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville. For more information about times and tickets, call the MOSH at (904) 396-6674 or email questions to info@themosh.org.</p> <p>LP at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Critically acclaimed recording artist and songwriter, LP is touring in support of her highly anticipated forthcoming album, "Heart to Mouth" Her new album stands out as her most direct statement yet. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on Friday, Feb. 22. For more information, call (904) 209-0367 or visit www.pvconcerthall.com. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>'On My Own: Adventures of David Copperfield' The Apex Theatre Studio welcomes an all new adaptation of David Copperfield. A rogue's gallery of clowns and cunning charlatans come to life in "On My Own," Ian Mairs' lively adaptation of David Copperfield. The early chapters of the Dickens classic take center stage, as young David struggles to make his way in the world after his mother dies. This colorful adaptation introduces a new generation to the beloved story of David Copperfield. Showtimes run from Feb. 22-23. Run time is 80 minutes and tickets are \$12. Visit jacksonvilleice.com for more information about the showtimes. The Apex Theatre Studio is located at 5150 Palm Valley Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Aylas Acres adoption event Every Saturday, Aylas Acres will host a cats and kittens adoption event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event will be held at Thriftique at 142 King St. in St. Augustine. It is suggested that potential adoptees fill out an Adoption Application at AYLASACRES.org for files and to streamline the adoption process. For more information, call Laura at (904) 377-6733.</p> <p>Explore the Farm Day at Congaree and Penn Explore the farm of Congaree and Penn. Hike through the hidden nooks of the 350 acres, learn the properties of excellent olive oil, sharpen cocktail mixing skills, hop on a farm tour, learn the basics of raising chickens, or simply enjoy the view with a sunset cruise on a tractor-pulled wagon ride. The exploration begins on Feb. 23 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.. Tickets are \$15 per guest. For more information about Explore the Farm Day and a full schedule of the event, call Congaree and Penn at (904) 527-1945 or visit www.congareeandpenn.com. Congaree and Penn is located at 11830 Old Kings Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Rooftop Champagne Soirée featuring Nicolas Feuillatte Hosted by Southern Glazers Wine and Spirits, enjoy an evening of music, luxurious eats and champagne. With Black Sheep's philosophy on using fresh, local ingredients to create hand-crafted food and cocktails, the chefs plan to titillate the senses with their offerings, matching a hedonistic occasion. The profits from the event will go directly to supporting the educational efforts of The Merendino Foundation, as well as feeding the needy in the community through Feeding Northeast Florida. Tickets are \$120 per guest. The soiree starts at 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Feb. 23 at Black Sheep Five Points on the corner of Oak Street and Margaret Street. For more menu questions and information, call Black Sheep at (904) 380-3091 or email at hello@blacksheep5points.com. Black Sheep Five Points is located at 1534 Oak St. in Jacksonville.</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> <p>Swing Dance Sundays Swing Dance Sundays is a weekly event with free lessons starting at 7 p.m. at The Volstead. Attendees can either bring a partner or come alone. The Volstead is located at 115 West Adams St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Victory Lutheran Church's 20th Anniversary Victory Lutheran Church is celebrating its 20-year anniversary. Victory Lutheran Church invites the congregation, family, friends and members of the community to join for a special worship service on Feb. 24 at 10:30 a.m. The Ladies of Victory (LOV) will host a picnic and family-friendly games after the service. Victory Lutheran Church is located at 4651 Kernan Boulevard in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Blues Sunday at Palms Presbyterian Church Palms Presbyterian Church invites the community to Blues Sunday on Feb. 24 at both morning services held at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. in its beautiful Sanctuary. This event asks the question, "Do you have the blues?" This service is aimed at helping those dealing with loss to express their grief. Attendees are invited to come as they are and join the Palms Presbyterian Church. All are welcome and a nursery is provided. During the season of Lent, the church also invites bassist John "Mce" Miller and a group of local, talented musician colleagues to join the group as they explore the genre of the blues in this imaginative worship experience. For more information about Palms, please visit www.palmschurch.org or call (904) 246-6427.</p>

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Monday, Feb. 25	Tuesday, Feb. 26	Wednesday, Feb. 27	Thursday, Feb. 28
<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>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>Talk with a Doc: Caring for Your Active Heart Is it safe to exercise with cardiac issues? Why is it important to stay active? What are the signs and symptoms something could be wrong while being active? Join Marcus Cox, MD, from Baptist Heart Specialists at the Y Healthy Living Center in Ponte Vedra to learn more on staying active while keeping cautious. The seminar is from noon to 1 p.m. on Feb. 25 and is free to attend. YMCA membership not required. Seating is limited. The Y Healthy Living Center is located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Recovering Manhattan Beach The memory of Florida's first African American beach resort in the segregated South is fading away. With no visible evidence left, the presentation uses archival sources, oral histories, and the few existing photographs to piece together its timeline. Learn how Gilded-Age expansion led to the creation of Manhattan Beach (located at present-day Hanna Park), the role Manhattan Beach played in Jacksonville's African-American community in the early 20th century and the factors that contributed to its demise. The presentation starts at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 25 with Brittany Cohill, Operations Manager at the Beaches Museum and Adjunct Instructor of History at Jacksonville University, as the speaker. This event is open to all and free for members. For information call (904) 665-0064 or email info@jaxhistory.org. The Jacksonville Historical Society is located at 314 Palmetto Street in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Palm Valley farmer's market The Palm Valley farmer's market will be held every Tuesday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Community Center at 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. It features produce, seafood, jams, baked goods and peanut butter. For more information visit them on their Facebook page Palm Valley Farmers Market.</p> <p>Florida Blue free Tuesday at the Cummer Each Tuesday evening from 4 to 9 p.m. enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum and its historic gardens, thanks to the generous support of Florida Blue. Guests can enjoy free admission to the galleries each Tuesday evening and the Cummer Café is also open for Tapas Tuesday sponsored by VyStar Credit Union. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Womens Food Alliance Hospitality Social Expo The Womens Food Alliance Hospitality Social Expo at the Morocco Shrine Center auditorium is a grand tasting and educational evening experience that showcases the talents and flavors of many of our professional culinary, beverage and hospitality members' companies. From gourmet caterers and themed restaurateurs to distilleries, specialty foods, training programs, event planners and more, the event brings together many of the award-winning women leaders of the hospitality industry of today. Tickets are \$20 at www.EventBrite.com. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech. Doors open at 4:30 and will run until 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 26. The Morocco Shrine Center is located at 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club Playing Date The First Coast Card Club invites new and existing members to its next card-playing date on Feb. 26 at the coffee shop in St. Augustine. The games begin at 1 p.m.. Space is limited, so please RSVP. For more information on the club and location, call the club host at (904) 829-0643</p>	<p>Wine Wednesday at the Renaissance Join the World Golf 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>Greenhouse Yoga Join Maggie's Herb Farm every Wednesday and Friday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a mindful Kripalu flow yoga practice in the greenhouse at Maggie's Herb Farm. Soothe body and mind in the fresh air, grounded on natural, river pebbles for a unique greenhouse yoga experience. Practice yoga surrounded by beautiful greenery, butterflies, herbs, hummingbirds and free-range chickens. Attendees are encouraged to bring their yoga mat, towel and water bottle. Pre-registration is not required. Maggie's Herb Farm is located at 11400 Country Road 13 N. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Let's Talk Turtle Join in discovering the wonderful sea turtles of Anastasia State Park on Feb. 27 at 1 to 2 p.m. Learn about how to identify turtle nests and hatching, along with the dangers they encounter after leaving the beach and beginning their journey in the ocean. This is a fun-filled, energetic program about these ancient animals who have been on earth for millions of years. The program will take place at the Anastasia Watersports Classroom. This program is free with regular park admission. Anastasia State park is located at 300 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 461-2033 or email chanell.guillaume@floridadep.gov.</p> <p>Christopher Cross: Take Me As I Am tour Grammy-award winning Adult Contemporary artist Christopher Cross returns to the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall on Feb.27. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. For more information, call (904) 209-0367 or visit www.pvconcerthall.com. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Savvy Job Hunters Ministry February workshop Join certified professional life coach and motivational speaker Dianne Tribble, for this high energy presentation on what holds people back from getting the careers they want. In her presentation, "Taking the Plunge: Faith to Override Fear," Tribble plans to show innovative ways to approach job searching. The workshop will be at Christ Episcopal Church on Feb. 28 at 9 a.m.. Register for the workshop by emailing Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>TEDxFSCJ Salon: Leonardos of the 21st Century This year marks the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, the Renaissance man or "polymath" whose genius spanned an array of disciplines. In today's digital age, poets and scientists, designers and architects are rediscovering this vision, cultivating expertise in multiple fields and challenging the boundaries that separate the arts and sciences. Join TEDxFSCJ for a salon exploring how this Renaissance ideal is finding renewed expression across the First Coast. Hosted by local artists Princess Simpson Rashid and Mark Creegan, the evening will feature five local, innovative polymaths and will be held at the Museum of Contemporary Art at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28. MOCA is located at 333 North Laura Street in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Alzheimers family support group at The Starling at Nocatee The Starling at Nocatee will host an alzheimers family support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 28. The Starling at Nocatee is located at 999 Crosswater Parkway in Ponte Vedra.</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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ARTIST LINEUP MAY CHANGE PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVE ROSE

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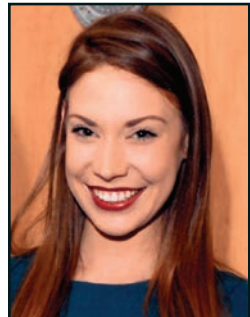
OBITUARIES

Mary Elizabeth Farnsworth

Mary Elizabeth (MaryBeth) Farnsworth, age 28, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, died on Jan. 23, 2019.

MaryBeth was born in Glens Falls, New York, on Oct. 23, 1990, to John and Claire Hammack Farnsworth. She grew up with her older sister, Jessica, in Cary, North Carolina, and received her diploma from Keystone National High School. She attended the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs and also received a certificate in Medical Clinical Assisting. She had lived the last two years in Colorado Springs. Her gifts to us were her beautiful smile and punky personality. She will be fondly remembered for her love of nature, reading, cooking and journaling.

MaryBeth was preceded in death by her paternal grandmother, Mary Jane Pugh Farnsworth. She is survived by her parents; her sister, Jessica Farnsworth Reagan, and Jessica's husband, Andrew, and their son, Simon; her paternal grandfather, George B. Farnsworth;



Mary Elizabeth Farnsworth

maternal grandparents, Al and Liz Hammack; uncles and aunts Karen Hammack Berkley, Kris Hammack Lawrence, and her husband, David, Barc Farnsworth and Michael Holden, Anne Farnsworth Berberi, and her husband, Nick; and many loving cousins.

A memorial service will be held at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, 4510 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082, on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, at 2 p.m. followed by a private ceremony to scatter her ashes at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to: Adult & Teen Challenge USA, PO Box 249, Ozark, Missouri, 65721, or teenchallengeusa.com. Designate: In Memory of MaryBeth Farnsworth.

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36

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Herman J. Badenhoop

Herman J. Badenhoop, 100, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Feb. 15, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Michael R. Elliott

Michael R. Elliott, 76, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Feb. 14, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Jeffrey Gronczniak

Jeffrey Gronczniak, 32, of Jacksonville, died Feb. 9, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

James Anthony Howard

James Anthony Howard, 55, of Orange Park, died Feb. 9, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Daniel Patrick Renzulli

Daniel Patrick Renzulli, 18, of Bridgewater, New Jersey, died Feb. 6, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Peter John Renzulli

Peter John Renzulli, 51, of Bridgewater, New Jersey, died Feb. 6, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Ken Smedley

Ken Smedley, 77, died Feb. 9, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com.

OBITUARIES continues on Page 16



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Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department

Drawing registration for SJC Parks and Recreation Department's Summer camp 2019 to be held soon

The drawing registration for the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department's Summer Camp 2019 will be open Monday, March 4 at 8 a.m. through Friday, March 15 at 5 p.m., with names drawn at random on Monday, March 25.

Results of the drawing will be mailed out no later than April 5.

With a theme of Recnite: Camp Royale, the county camp will feature outdoor activities, field trips, arts & crafts and swimming. The camp is open to resident children ages 5 to 12 and will run from Monday, June 3 through Friday, July 19 at

six county locations.

Recnite: Camp Royale Summer Camp 2019 will be led by experienced and motivated local staff at six locations around the county, including Davis Park Field House in Ponte Vedra, Ketterlinus Gym in downtown St. Augustine, Plantation Park in St. Johns, Solomon Calhoun Community Center in West Augustine, Trout Creek in Mill Creek, and W.E. Harris Community Center in Hastings.

"We're excited to be in our 21st year hosting an affordable, educational and fun summer camp for county residents,"

said Jamie Baccari, community programs manager for the Parks and Recreation Department. "This year's theme, Recnite: Camp Royale, is all about teaching kids to use their imagination as they participate in exciting camp challenges while making new friends this summer."

Camp fees are \$410 per child with reduced rates available upon qualification. Camp hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For details and registration, visit www.sjcfl.us/youth or contact Brian James at bjames@sjcfl.us or (904) 209-0365.

OPES awarded for having most registrants in CHARACTER COUNTS! race

The Ocean Palms Elementary School (OPES) community was awarded for having the most registrants at the recent CHARACTER COUNTS! race in St. Augustine.

The Ponte Vedra school enrolled 121 registrants and consequently received a cash donation. According to Press Parent Susan Samko, the money the school community won will be used to fund Character Counts initiatives at OPES. The school received the same award at the race last year. OPES, Samko added, also received praise after the school's choir collaborated with Landrum Middle School to sing the national anthem.

Beginning and ending at Palencia Elementary School, the race/walk was held Feb. 3 and included a 6K and 3K. The course took runners through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas.

This event is produced by the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering



ABOVE: Members of the OPES community gather at the CHARACTER COUNTS! race on Feb. 3 in St. Augustine.

LEFT: Students pose for a photo at the race.

Photos courtesy of Susan Samko

Committee and is presented by Beaver Toyota with support from businesses and community groups. The SJCS, along with area businesses, youth organizations and civic groups, selected the

national character education program of CHARACTER COUNTS! as a county-wide initiative to instill positive character traits in young people throughout the county.

Local Rotary Club accepting applications for 'Service Above Self' Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset is currently accepting applications for the "Service Above Self" Scholarship (SASS).

Students enrolled as juniors or seniors at Ponte Vedra or Allen D. Nease high schools are encouraged to apply. Offered annually by the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset, these \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to the top applicant from each school based on his/her application, which includes an essay about community service. Children of Rotarians are not eligible to apply.

Details and the SASS application are available at goo.gl/forms/HAuBTJPijjLaCcWv1. The deadline for receipt of all application requirements is March 14, 2019. The two scholarship winners will be notified by mid-April. Later, they will receive their scholarships at a dinner hosted by the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset.

For additional information, contact the SASS chair, Paula Roderick, at paroderick1@comcast.net or call (904) 280-8933.

Beth El – The Beaches Synagogue to hold Night of Giving March 30

The gala board members for Beth El – The Beaches Synagogue are once again planning their annual Night of Giving event, which will take place at Marsh Landing Country Club on Saturday, March 30.

"Our gala theme this year is 'Play it Forward,'" Gala Chair Tracy Aquila said. "We were so overwhelmed by our rabbi's gesture of generosity that we wanted to continue with that theme."

With retirement on the horizon, Beth

El Rabbi Michael Matuson has pledged to create and direct the first \$100,000 to a fund dedicated solely to paying down the Beth El building mortgage.

"I want to leave my congregation something, something better than words or sounds," Matuson said.

The committee decided that the rabbi's actions made the Play it Forward theme appropriate for this event.

"We've added a fabulous quote to our

invitation this year," Aquila said. "It's amazing how one person's act of kindness can change the course of our synagogue."

"Today, follow their lead," was the quote that spoke to the entire committee.

The fundraising efforts for the event include silent auctions and live auctions. All proceeds from the gala will support the Jewish community at Beth El.

The Annual Night of Giving is available to anyone in the community who would

like to participate. The gala committee members include Aquila, Abby Steele (temple president), Sherill Herzfeld, Rachel Mitchell, Donne Ordile, Dana Scheer-Pollock, Tammy Shumer, Betsy Siegel and Holly Udell.

Contact the synagogue office at (904) 273-9100 for more information on this event and all other programs. Beth El – The Beaches Synagogue is located at 288 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Faithful Servant Missions run, festival in Nocatee to support children in Costa Rica

Faithful Servant Missions (FSM) is holding its sixth annual Run with a Mission and Family Fun Festival on Saturday, March 30 at 8:30 a.m. in Nocatee.

The event offers a 5K, 10K and a one-mile Fun Run through community streets and the paved Nocatee Greenway Trails, starting and finishing in the Nocatee Splash Park parking area.

The race will be followed by a free Family Fun Festival that will include a bounce house, balloon artist, food, prizes, silent auction, vendors and more.

“The Family Fun Festival event is what sets our run apart from other runs,” FSM Run Coordinator Julianne Overby said. “People can come out to run, support the runners or just come to enjoy the festival.”

FSM is a nonprofit Christ-centered organization that provides physical, educational

and spiritual support to children in Costa Rica. Founded in 2006 by members of the Jacksonville community, FSM has built recreation and education facilities, a church and a parsonage in Costa Rica. FSM works in conjunction with many local churches in Jacksonville and the Beaches, including Beach Church, Church of Eleven22, Ponte Vedra United Methodist, Waypoint Church and Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church.

The event in Nocatee raises money to continue the nonprofit’s efforts in Costa Rica. Cheryl Bradford, president of the FSM board, said the community where their mission is located exists on drugs and prostitution. She said the drug situation is the worst they have seen in the 12 years they have been there.

“There are children that are in various stages of life and the whole mission of



The sixth annual Faithful Servant Missions Run with a Mission and Family Fun Festival will be held March 30 in Nocatee.

Photo courtesy of Faithful Servant Missions

FSM is to take these children from that beginning point and help break the cycle of poverty,” Overby said. “We introduce them to Jesus and all those things that will help them have opportunities in life that they could never have in the place in which they were born.”

Overby said changing the life cycle for the children makes such a huge difference to the entire family. She said it helps bring the parents into the mission where they can encounter Jesus and learn different

ways to bring in money and support.

“Just like in America when children take their parents to church, it has become a beacon of light that changes their lives,” said Overby.

Since the FSM Run with a Mission began six years ago, it has increased the number of runners and financial impact for the mission significantly.

To sign up for the run, visit runsignup.com/runwithamission. For more information on FSM, visit www.fsm4u.org.

Nocatee Farmers Market features Cruisin’ Car Show

Nocatee residents and their friends enjoyed admiring classic cars at the Nocatee Farmers Market last Saturday.

Organized by Sunshine State Chevelles, the Cruisin’ Car Show included a variety of vintage cars of all makes and models.

Per the usual, the Farmers Market also featured over 70 local vendors, selling everything from fresh produce, to crafts, jewelry, herbs, unique foods and more.

The Farmers Market is held at Nocatee’s Swim Club Green every month. Visit www.nocatee.com for more information.



Photos by Susan Griffin



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Open your eyes: What you really need to know about Lasik eye surgery



Arun C. Gulani, M.D.
Guest Columnist

By Arun C. Gulani, M.D.

Special to the Recorder

In a recent New York Times story in June 2018, Lasik eye surgery was highlighted for its complications. Then in December 2018, we saw the sad news of a Detroit meteorologist who committed suicide apparently following Lasik complications.

Due to the positive impact of this surgery on millions of people worldwide to the point that it is a household name today, it is important that we understand the facts and see through the advertising and deals because I always say, “Blindness at any deal is not a great bargain.”

Let’s divide this article into three parts wherein part one, I will review its origin and success, and in part two, its possible side effects and complications. In part three, I will address correction of complications back to 20/20.

Nearly 30 years ago, I was privileged to have been exposed to Lasik eye surgery, years before it was approved and used by eye surgeons in the United States. This opportunity allowed me to invent Lasik surgery instruments, as well as work with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) division of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on various levels, besides interacting with world pioneers like Dr. Jose Ingacio Barraquer (South America) and Dr. Slava Fyodorov (Russia). It was evident then that this was a revolution for mankind!

Eyeglasses, as we know from history, have been around since the 13th century in Italy, while one of the first contact lenses made from hand-blown glass came into existence in 1888 in Switzerland.

The quest, though, was on for a more permanent solution to eyeglasses.

Dr. Srinivasan, a scientist working at IBM, introduced the application of the Excimer laser on organic tissue. From there, Dr. Stephen L. Trokel (Columbia University) applied it to perform laser vision correction, while our colleague, Dr. McDonald, first used this laser on a blind human eye.

Dr. Pallikaris (Greece), Dr. Burrato (Italy) and Dr. Peyman (U.S.), in various levels, participated in bringing forth an improvised version that would come to be known as

Lasik (Laser Assisted In-Situ-Keratomi-leusis), which was first adapted by Canada and then by the U.S. FDA in 1995.

My own exposure and adaptation of Lasik among the first in the world allowed an insight that this surgery could practically correct all refractive errors including nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism and presbyopia. This professional satisfaction was further augmented by our patient reactions to this swift yet meticulously accurate surgical technique.



ABOVE: Dr. Arun C. Gulani uses “No-Cut” techniques during Lasik eye surgery.



LEFT: This photo shows potential reading vision problems after “Cookie-Cutter” Lasik surgery, when some patients are surprised after surgery that they need reading glasses and cannot see their iPhones anymore.

Photos courtesy of Gulani Vision Institute

Lasik involves the use of the very precise (cuts one-fourth of a micron at every pulse) Excimer laser, which reshapes the cornea (clear front window) of the eye according to the glasses prescription of the patient.

The surgery is done in minutes, with the patient awake, active and participating; only numbing drops are used in the patient’s eyes. This method provides the quickest healing and fastest results. Visual recovery is fast, with most patients gaining vision recovery within minutes to continue toward significant improvement on the same day of surgery.

Lasik surgery has since evolved into a “blade-free” technique and then into a custom-designed surgery, until recent times where we have further propelled to a “no-cut” technique.

I do wish for patients to understand that Lasik is just one among 16 laser vision surgeries that themselves are among 40 different vision corrective surgeries (surgeries to remove glasses and contact lenses).

Thus, if one understands how vision corrective surgery and all 40 combinations are what all Lasik surgeons must be capable of performing and offering, it becomes easy to realize how every patient can indeed have the best surgical technique tailored to them for the safest and most predictable outcome.

This would then change Lasik vision surgery from a commodity to an art.

There was one fear though: This very asset of Lasik surgery, especially its speed and safety along with its predictability, could fall into wrong hands. More on that in the next column.

Each year, patients from around the world travel to Jacksonville’s Gulani Vision Institute to have their vision corrected by ophthalmologist Arun Gulani, MD. A Ponte Vedra Beach resident, Dr. Gulani has been a leader in LASIK, cataract and astigmatism surgery, has invented Lasik complication corrective techniques and is often called upon to train other surgeons in the latest groundbreaking technologies.

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Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosts preview event for Art Tapas

The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosted local media on Wednesday, Feb. 13 for a preview of its upcoming event, Art Tapas.

Attendees of the preview had a chance to see a few of the artistic experiences being offered at the event, which will be held at the Cultural Center on Friday, March 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. Art Tapas gathers art, artists and patrons to connect in an environment of learning, experiencing and appreciating all that the arts, and popular



culture, have to offer to the community.

VIP tickets for Art Tapas cost \$125, while general admission is \$75. The dress is cocktail attire. Visit www.ccpvb.org for more information.



Photos courtesy of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

Local media and the staff at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach recently enjoy a media preview of Art Tapas, which is being held Friday, March 1.

Brittany Cohill named associate director of the Beaches Museum

The Beaches Museum recently announced that Brittany Cohill has been promoted to associate director.

Cohill's new position entails overseeing general educational programming, exhibits, archive and collections management and the college/university internship program. Cohill will continue to report to Beaches Museum Executive Director Christine Hoffman.

Cohill joined the Beaches Museum as operations manager in December 2016. She supervised the museum's daily operations, a volunteer staff of approximately



Brittany Cohill

75 volunteers, headed the Education and Accessibility Committees and was a member of the museum's 2016-2017 Strategic Planning Committee. Cohill will maintain her management role in museum operations and the volunteer program.

Cohill earned a Bachelor of Arts in history and psychology and a Master of Arts in history from the University of North Florida. In addition to her work at the Beaches Museum, she is an adjunct instructor of history at Jacksonville University.

LOCAL EAGLE SCOUTS HONORED BY PASTOR



Photo submitted by Pastor Bob Loy

Austin Dickson and Joe Johnson, who recently received their Eagle Scout awards, stand with Pastor Bob Loy of First Baptist Church of Ponte Vedra Beach.

Jumbo Shrimp opens registration for National Anthem auditions

As the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp prepare for their opening home game on April 4 against the Jackson Generals, the club is holding auditions for a chance to perform the national anthem before a Jumbo Shrimp home game this season.

The auditions will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28, rain or shine, at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville.

"We are looking forward to hearing local individuals and groups perform and have an opportunity to open each Jumbo Shrimp game in the 2019 season," Jumbo Shrimp general manager Harold Crow said. "Jumbo Shrimp games at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville are community events, and we are excited about building a lineup of local talent that will be among the highlights of each night of affordable family fun."

Those who performed during the 2018 Jumbo Shrimp season are not required to audition if they are interested in performing again in 2019, but should still complete and email the registration form, indicating a past performance at a Jumbo Shrimp game.

Groups and individuals interested may schedule an audition time by completing a registration form and emailing it to Director of Promotions & Special Events David Ratz at david@jaxshrimp.com or by faxing it to (904) 358-2845.

The registration form can be found on www.milb.com/jacksonville.

Jumbo Shrimp individual and group outing ticket packages are currently on sale for the 2019 season by

calling (904) 358-2846.

The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp offer affordable family fun at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville. Their inaugural season garnered the Southern League's Don Mincher Organization of the Year, Promotional Trophy and Jimmy Bragan Executive of the Year, won by general manager Harold Crow. To experience the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp live, call (904) 358-2846 or visit www.jaxshrimp.com.

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Photos courtesy of Renee Faure

ABOVE: Edmund Greacen's "French Artillery Soldiers on Horseback"

LEFT: "The Brooklyn Bridge" by Edmund Greacen was painted in 1916. It is on permanent collection at the Cummer Art Museum.

Exhibit

Continued from 4

Greacen created a legacy of art and beauty, which acted as a ripple effect of inspiration throughout this children's lives. Growing up, Renee Faure remem-

bers being immersed in art as far back as she can remember.

"I have lived with his beautiful paintings on my walls all my life," Faure said. "They bring me peace."

Surrounded by art and heritage, Renee Faure paints in the back room of her house. Here, she has the two empty 75

millimeter shell casings her grandfather brought home from that trip to France. At one time, those casings might have symbolized the destruction and death during the war all those years ago. These days, they hold fresh flowers.

"Edmund Greacen and World War I" will be on display at the Cummer Museum from Feb. 5 through Dec. 15.

Obituaries

Continued from 11

Brenda Sue Stiltner

Brenda Sue Stiltner, 63, of Jacksonville, died Feb. 11, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Jeannine V. Toivonen-Zipf

Jeannine V. Toivonen-Zipf, 92, of Jacksonville, died Feb. 13, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Richard Werner Vook

Richard Werner Vook, 89, of Atlantic Beach, died Feb. 11, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Frank Hammons Worley

Frank Hammons Worley Sr., 95, of Ponte Vedra, died Feb. 15, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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Local Non-Profit Guide

**SPECIAL SECTION
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The seventh annual MS Silent auction is being held March 11 at Bogey Grille from 6 to 9 p.m. Backers of the event are members of the local 35-person Bike MS Big Banana bicycle team, who this year will surpass \$1 million in fundraising for the organization.

Photos courtesy of Bruce Reid



Bogey Grille to host 7th annual MS Silent Auction March 11

National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Awareness Week will be launched locally on Monday, March 11, at Bogey Grille in Ponte Vedra Beach, with the seventh annual MS silent auction. To be held from 6 to 9 p.m., the event is free and open to the public.

Beaches and Nocatee businesses have donated more than 200 items to help support the event, which raises more than \$20,000 each year to provide programs, services and research to the more than 18,000 North Floridians impacted by the disease.

All proceeds from the event, which features trips and excursions, vacations, restaurants, merchandise, jewelry and art and professional services, benefit the North Florida Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. In addition, Bogey Grille donates a percentage of food and beverage sales to MS.

Items in the auction are coming from Kudos Massage, Desserts for Donations, Espling Jewelers, Sliders, Ragtime, Pusser's, North Guana Outpost, Salt Life, Metro Diner, Total Wine, Beach Diner, Tropical Smoothie Cafe, Whiskey Jax, Gregory's Jewelry, Sawgrass Marriott, Hilton Garden Inn, The Ponte Vedra Recorder, The Loop and 9 to 5 Pets. Vacations include trips to Pinehurst, North Carolina and Amelia Island. In addition to the auction, there will be a 50/50 drawing.



This year's auction includes trips and excursions, vacations, restaurant gift certificates, merchandise, jewelry and art and professional services.

Backers of the event are members of the local 35-person Bike MS Big Banana bicycle team, who this year will surpass \$1 million in fundraising for the organization. The team was formed in 2010.

For complete details, go to www.SilentMSAuction.weebly.com.

United Way offering free tax preparation

The United Way of St. Johns County (SJC) and the United Way of Northeast Florida are partnering to offer free tax preparation by certified tax preparers to individuals and families with a household income of \$66,000 or less through a program called RealSense.

United Way-SJC offers this service to ensure that families and individuals can save the cost of tax preparation and reap the benefit of a properly prepared return. One-on-one appointments are offered Monday, Wednesday or Saturday, depending on the location. Additionally, documents can be scanned on-site to allow for completed returns with little wait time.

RealSense appointments can be made online at bit.ly/realsense or by calling (904) 373-8671. Locations and dates/times are listed below:

Wells Fargo

1919 U.S. Highway 1 South, St. Augustine
Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Vystar Credit Union

3654 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd., St. Augustine
Wednesdays: 2 to 7 p.m.
Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Health and Human Services

200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine
Mondays: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

United Way of St. Johns County

117 Bridge St., St. Augustine
Wednesdays: 2 to 8 p.m.

Individuals are asked to bring the following:

- Driver's license or other photo I.D.
- Checkbook for direct deposit of any refund(s)
- Social Security cards (yourself and all dependents)
- W-2 from each employer (no pay stubs)
- Documentation of all other income
- 1095-A if you received health-care coverage through the Marketplace

Bogey Grille hosts 24th annual Tips for Kids Sake campaign with Rotary, MasterCraft Builder Group to support BBBS

Bogey Grille in Ponte Vedra Beach hosted the 24th annual Tips for Kids Sake campaign this month benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Johns County (BBBS).

Part one was held Feb. 5 with celebrity waiters from the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach waiting on friends and family and donating their tips to BBBS. The local Rotary club has been supporting Tips for Kids Sake since 2006 and this year raised \$2,336.

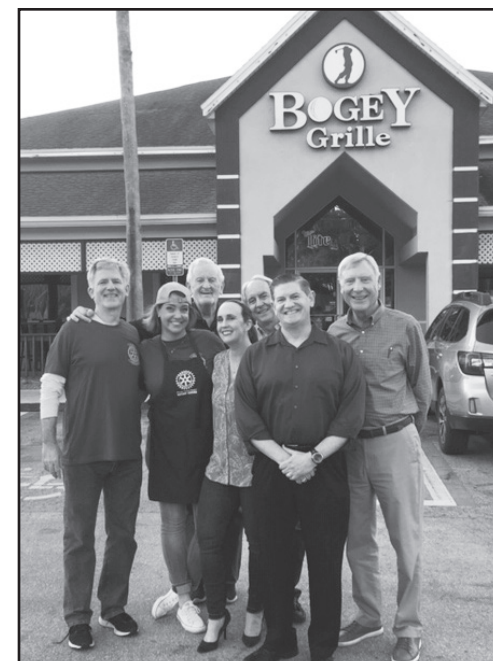
"The Ponte Vedra Rotary is an incredible supporter of Tips for Kids Sake — we are so appreciative to them and their enthusiasm of the event," said Teresa An-

drews, BBBS director of development and coordinator of the event. "They really make a difference."

This year's Rotary team included Jessica Evans, Toni Boudreaux-Godwin, Richard Hanna, Doc Renuart, Dick Williams and George McCaughan.

Part two of the event was held Tuesday at Bogey Grille with waiters from MasterCraft Builder Group. The team included Dennis DeMott, Jen Pledger and Amy Lingenfesler. The group raised \$1,875 for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters, call (904) 829-9986 or visit www.bbbsstjohns.org.



Rotarians George McCaughan, Toni Boudreaux-Godwin, Ken Smith, Jessica Evans, Richard Hanna, Doc Renuart and Dick Williams gather at Tips for Kids Sake benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Johns County at Bogey Grille on Feb. 5.

Photo courtesy of Toni Boudreaux-Godwin

Therapy Animal Coalition to hold Animal Expo March 2

Steve Dale, who credits advice from Oprah and Lucille Ball, plus a piano-playing cat named Ricky and a dog named Chaser, with dramatically changing his life, will share his story to open Therapy Animal Coalition's (TAC) Third Annual Therapy Animal Expo on Saturday, March 2 at the University of North Florida's Adam W. Herbert Center, Building 43.

Dale, a nationally recognized animal behaviorist and author, will discuss the intensity of the human-animal bond, which he says we are only beginning to understand. Later in the morning, he will hold a workshop titled "Fear Free: Be the Change" to discuss signs of fear, anxiety and stress in pets and how to better understand them.

For the first time, the event is a collaborative effort of TAC and UNF's Brooks College of Health, and a professional track for those interested in the science and research behind the inclusion of animals in healing and education will be available. The professional track is open to anyone but targets mental health/healthcare providers and educators interested in professional collaboration with animals for health and learning. CEU's are available

for registered professional track attendees.

The program will also feature workshops, nationally recognized therapeutic-animal experts, research and clinical faculty as speakers and exhibits for all pet owners who are interested in learning about animal-assisted interventions and therapy (often referred to as "pet therapy"). It also will provide guidance for people interested in establishing an animal intervention (or therapy) program at their facility, school or business. The Expo will be at UNF from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and is open only to human attendees, except service dogs.

Speakers for the Symposium include Amy Johnson, LPC, director of the Center for Human Animal Interventions at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. She founded and chairs the nonprofit, Teacher's Pet: Dogs and Kids Learning Together, which pairs at-risk youth with rescue dogs for an intervention program. Johnson will speak to participants in the professional track on "Ethics and Professional Competencies in Animal-Assisted Therapy." UNF faculty members, Dr. Carlene Taylor, LMHC and Dr. Amber Barnes, both instructors in the Department

of Public Health, as well as their graduate students, will also present in the professional track.

Expo organizers with TAC estimate more than 250 registered therapeutic animal/handler teams — out of more than 350 who have the required credentials — volunteer for therapy assignments in Northeast Florida. About 100 facilities in the region have ongoing therapy programs.

TAC leaders have seen these numbers grow rapidly by 132 percent with increasing numbers of bona fide animal/handler teams and sites permitting visiting therapeutic animals in just the last two years. TAC's goal is to double the number of active, qualified teams that seek out training and registration in the coming year. The group hopes to guide more of the volunteers into existing programs or motivate them to start new programs.

At the Expo, more than 20 organizations and vendors will participate, with booths and demonstrations on therapy animal training, how animals and their handlers can be registered and the organizations accepting volunteers to participate in animal-assisted interventions (aka pet therapy).

There also will be experts on hand to answer questions about how a group might arrange for animal/handler teams to come in to their facility and provide therapeutic visits.

Program exhibitors may include Alliance of Therapy Dogs, Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville, Baptist Medical Center Beaches, Clay County Humane, Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Mayo Clinic Caring Canines, R.E.A.D.®, Pet Partners of North Florida and Wolfson Children's Hospital among others.

"People are surprised to find that dogs are not the only therapeutic animals," said Kristi Leonard, event co-chair and president of the TAC Board of Directors. "Cats, rabbits, pot-bellied pigs, even horses can bring a calming influence and have a healing effect for people who are sick, stressed or hurting. In our area we have cats, miniature horses and a rabbit registered with animal/handler teams."

Admission to the Therapy Animal Expo & Symposium is \$25. Registration is available online through UNF at www.unf.edu/ce/TAC. TAC is a Ponte Vedra Beach-based nonprofit. Visit therapyanimalcoalition.org/index.html for more information.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida has seated its latest class of the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative. They are: Kendall Sisisky Valliere (back row, left to right), Michael Schmidt, Ashley Stein Wotiz, Matthew Wotiz, Autumn Combs, Mandy Hudson, Ashton Hudson and John Baker; Courtney McGehee (Front row left to right), Marion Lane, Willie Lane, Susan Kelly, Ragu Murthy and Priyanka Murthy.

Photo courtesy of Susan Edelman, vice president of Strategic Communications.



14 emerging philanthropists selected for Weaver Philanthropic Initiative Class of 2019

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida has seated its latest class of the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative — a program now entering its 20th year.

The fourteen emerging philanthropists in the 2019 class will learn more about the community's needs and how to maximize their charitable giving, just like their predecessors. The Weaver Philanthropic Initiative Class of 2019 includes:

- John Baker
- Autumn Combs
- Ashton Hudson
- Mandy Hudson
- Susan Ward Kelly
- Marion Lane
- Willie Lane
- Courtney McGehee
- Priyanka Murthy
- Ragu Murthy
- Michael Schmidt

- Kendall Sisisky Valliere
- Ashley Stein Wotiz
- Matt Wotiz

Program alumni and members of The Community Foundation's Board of Trustees welcomed the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative Class of 2019 at a reception in November. In late January, the class began its six-month education process, including opportunities to experience hands-on grantmaking. Along the way, members will learn about the critical issues and abundant opportunities that exist in the community. At its conclusion, participants will have an understanding of their own philanthropic leadership style, as well as an enlightened look at the grantmaking opportunities in the area.

"As a member of the 2008 class, I can personally attest to the value of

the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative," commented Ryan A. Schwartz, chairman of the board of trustees of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. "These individuals are about to embark on a journey which will add to their understanding of philanthropy, and in all likelihood, result in a continuation of our community's great history of giving as well as improve Northeast Florida and inspire others to do the same."

The Community Foundation has been identifying and guiding the next generation of philanthropists through this program since 1999. In 2013, in recognition of the philanthropic leadership provided to the community by J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver, the initiative was renamed the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative.

JFCS displaying free touring photography exhibition

Jewish Family & Community Services is currently displaying a free touring photography exhibition named "Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage."

Photographer Gay Block and writer Malka Drucker spent three years photographing and interviewing over 100 people who hid, protected, and saved Jews in Europe during World War II. The result is this exhibition, which is being shown at the Frisch Family Holocaust Memorial Gallery, located within Jewish Family & Community Services Headquarters at 8540 Baycenter Road in Jacksonville. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Groups are welcome with advance appointments.

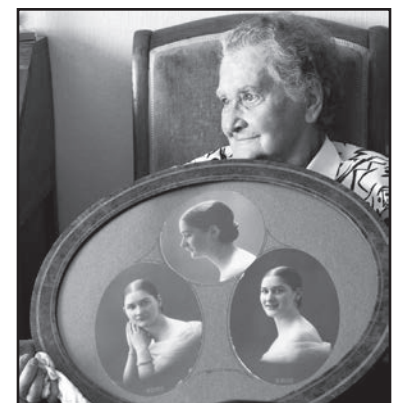


Photo by Gay Block

Jewish Family & Community Services is currently displaying a free touring photography exhibition named "Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage."

Established in 1917, Jewish Family & Community Services has been operating in the Jacksonville community for more than 100 years. Guided by Jewish values, the local nonprofit has been committed to the mission of "helping people help themselves" — no matter their faith or background. JFCS provides a wide range of services, in six key program areas: adoption, foster care, emergency financial assistance, mental health counseling, dropout prevention and senior support. They also provide Jewish life services, which includes assisting Holocaust survivors.

Visit jfcsjax.org for more information.

Ayla's Acres raises \$25,000 with recent 'Casino Night' gala

By Jon Blauvelt

Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue raised approximately \$25,000 at its recent "Rollin' Down the Matanzas Casino Night" fundraiser at the River House in St. Augustine.

Held Feb. 2, the fourth annual gala was hosted by Loretta Swit of "M*A*S*H", an honorary board member for Ayla's Acres. Approximately 250 people attended and enjoyed playing casino games such as blackjack, Texas Hold'em, roulette, craps and more. The event also featured a silent auction, catering by Purple Olive and live entertainment by Little Jake and Soul Searchers.

"I think people had a great time," said Fran Charlson, executive director of Ayla's Acres. "They enjoyed themselves, eating, drinking but supporting the animals."

AYLA'S ACRES continues on Page 21



ABOVE: Julie Ann Brunsky, Vicki Lynn Marra of Underwood Jewelers, Ayla's Acres Executive Director Fran Charlson and Loretta Swit gather at the non-profit's "Rollin' Down the Matanzas Casino Night" fundraiser at the River House in St. Augustine on Feb. 2.



ABOVE: Kalisa and Fred King



RIGHT: Mary Kelley Kryzwick and Constance Wiecking



LEFT: Pete Kryzwick and Teri and Tom Sackmaster
Photos by Jon Blauvelt

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Mission House is the only day facility to help meet the needs of the homeless adults at the Beaches through compassion, faith, and programs designed to provide assistance at an individual level.

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Attendees of the gala enjoy playing various casino games.

Ayla's Acres

Continued from 20

The fundraiser will support the non-profit's plans for Peter's Friends Animals Resource Center, a facility that is going to be built on County Road 208 in St. Johns County. According to Charlson, the facility will house an adoption facility, an education facility and a low-/no-cost spay and neuter clinic. The nonprofit plans to break ground this year.

Ayla's Acres is a St. Augustine-based nonprofit supporting adoption, spay and neuter and responsible care of animals. Along with education, outreach, adop-



Ruth Weber, Dave Heyrend and Judith Dobbs

tion and fostering programs, Ayla's Acres maintains a 45-acre sanctuary where "un-adoptable" animals may live out their lives with peace, love and dignity.

The fifth annual gala will be held Feb. 8, 2020 at the River House in St. Augustine.



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Photo courtesy of Operation New Uniform

Operation New Uniform staff gathers with graduates of Cohort 27 at the JAX Chamber in December 2018.

Operation New Uniform helps veterans succeed in business world

Military members transitioning from active duty to civilian life face many challenges when they return home — not the least of which is the ability to obtain high-paying, rewarding career opportunities. Although educated, trained and highly skilled, these veterans often find themselves less competitive in the professional marketplace compared to civilian candidates who have taken a more traditional path.

Operation New Uniform (ONU), a Jacksonville-based nonprofit organization, was founded to address these challenges by equipping veterans with the business acumen, career search skills, confidence and networking connections to succeed and thrive in the business world. Since the organization's first class in 2014, ONU has served 238 veterans, and the organization plans to expand in the near future.

ONU programs immerse veterans in a positive team environment comprised of successful veterans, business professionals and accomplished educators, and gives them the tools and resources to secure meaningful careers through their intensive three-and-a-

UPCOMING OPERATION NEW UNIFORM GRADUATIONS

Class 29

- **Kick-off date:** March 13
- **Graduation date:** April 5
- **Location:** BBVA Compass
- **Registration link:** www.eventbrite.com/e/cohort-29-graduationhosted-by-bbva-compass-tickets-55517874457

Class 30

- **Kick-off date:** May 15
- **Graduation date:** June 7
- **Location:** CIT
- **Registration link:** www.eventbrite.com/e/cohort-30-graduationhosted-by-cit-tickets-55518111165

Class 31

- **Kick-off date:** July 17
- **Graduation date:** Aug. 9
- **Location:** Haskell
- **Registration link:** www.eventbrite.com/e/cohort-31-graduationhosted-by-haskell-tickets-55524476203

half-week training program powered by Sandler Training. The organization, which works with other Veteran

Service Organizations (VSO), is led by Executive Director and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Michele McManamon.

According to ONU, 96 percent of veterans completing the ONU program have found fulfilling careers. Also according to the nonprofit, over 99.24 percent of ONU veterans agree that ONU bridges the gap that other post-military programs do not, and 99.25 percent recommend ONU to other transitioning veterans. ONU's commitment and impact in the lives and careers of transitioning veterans results in a \$3.7 million-dollar impact to the local community.

Moving forward in 2019, ONU will continue its work and will host five graduations across the business landscape of Jacksonville with the support of a few of its premier business partners. Each of ONU's graduations are free, yet guests are required to register to attend.

For more information about Operation New Uniform, its programs, graduations, upcoming events or ways you can support, visit onuvets.org or call (904) 328-1600.

Community First Cares Foundation awards \$10,000 grant to Monique Burr Foundation for Children

Funding to aid in development and piloting of MBF Teen Safety Matters High School Edition

The Community First Cares Foundation (CFCF) — the nonprofit, philanthropic arm of Community First Credit Union — recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Monique Burr Foundation for Children (MBF).

The grant will fund the development and piloting of the MBF's latest prevention education program, MBF Teen Safety Matters®, which will provide the curriculum to high school students on the First Coast.

"The Community First Cares Foundation's partnership has been vital in helping us develop and pilot MBF Teen Safety Matters," said Lynn Layton, president and CEO of the MBF. "Because of Community First Cares Foundation's generosity in the past, MBF was able to expand our programming for middle school students — and to date, have reached 74,000 middle school students in Northeast Florida. The current funds will allow us to continue that expansion into high schools, thus allowing us to reach even more students in grades K-12 with critical safety information."

The mission of the Monique Burr Foundation for Children is to make a positive impact on the community, provide positive change for families and to provide bullying and child abuse prevention safety education relevant to issues children face today.

MBF Teen Safety Matters is a comprehensive, evidence-informed prevention education program that educates and empowers teens and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, the four types of child abuse, relationship abuse, sex trafficking, digital abuse, and other digital dangers.

"The program was developed with schools, not for schools, to make the best use of existing resources and ensure schools have effective programs that are easy to implement," Layton said.

Funding from the grant will aid in the development of the program for high school students, as well as to implement the program at pilot sites and to solicit facilitator feedback to refine and finalize the curriculum lessons — all to reach even more students.

"The Monique Burr Foundation for Children is a shining force in our community," said Missy Peters, executive director of the Community First Cares Foundation. "By working together, we can provide high school students with important tools designed to help keep them safe, healthy, and ready to learn."

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF JACKSONVILLE TO HOLD RISING STARS EVENT MAY 2

Communities In Schools of Jacksonville (CIS) is holding its Rising Stars talent show fundraiser on Thursday, May 2. Local students will showcase their talents at the historic Florida Theatre. Tickets range from \$20 to \$50 with kids under 5 admitted free. CIS is a nonprofit that operates the case management, afterschool and literacy programs that have helped thousands of local students stay on track for graduation. Find out more at CISJax.org.

Photo courtesy of Communities In Schools of Jacksonville



Tim Tebow Foundation's 5th annual Night to Shine prom for people with special needs crowns 100,000 kings and queens

Earlier in February, hundreds of thousands of people came together on one single night — all from different cities, countries and cultures — to celebrate people with special needs.

At Night to Shine on Feb. 8, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, more than 200,000 volunteers from 655 churches and 35 different denominations across the United States and 24 countries, honored more than 100,000 guests with special needs simultaneously on one night.

“Night to Shine is special because there are so many things in our society that tear people apart and this night is a night that brings people together,” said Tim Tebow, founder and chairman of the Tim Tebow Foundation and a Ponte Vedra native. “Because every single person is important ... we are all loved, we are all created in God’s image and there is a reason and a purpose for each our lives.”

As he does each year, Tebow set off to attend as many locations as he could to be able to personally encourage, celebrate and love on the communities hosting Night to Shine and their guests. Tebow’s travels began Wednesday, Feb. 6, with the 2019 Night to Shine Kickoff Tour. The first leg of the Kickoff Tour was in Cuenca, Ecuador, at the Unshion Foundation, followed by Thursday’s stop at Familia De Dios in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. While at Night to Shine in Ecuador and Mexico, Tebow and the team who accompanied him walked guests down the red carpet, danced and crowned guests king or queen.

After Mexico, the team flew back to the States to make several stops throughout the day at host locations as they prepared for the big night. The team surprised students with special needs and Night to Shine honored guests at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, and were able to pray with the students as well as tour where Night to Shine would be held that evening. At Compass Christian Church in Grapevine, Texas, they surprised some volunteers that were setting up for Night to Shine, took photos and prayed with the volunteers



Photos courtesy of the Tim Tebow Foundation

Tim Tebow, founder and chairman of the Tim Tebow Foundation and a Ponte Vedra native, enjoys Night to Shine with event attendees.



and leadership team. The next stop was Crossroads Christian Church in Grand Prairie, Texas, who has hosted Night to Shine all five years. The team surprised honored guests that were getting their hair and makeup done, listened to their worship team as they prepared for Night to Shine and prayed with the leadership team.

As Night to Shine began to make its

way across the country, the team traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they visited Legacy Church, another fifth-year host. Tebow met and thanked volunteers, surprised and spent time with honored guests getting their hair and makeup done and prayed over the team of volunteers.

The last church to be surprised by Tebow for Night to Shine 2019 was ZOE

Church in Los Angeles. Tebow welcomed numerous guests as they walked the red carpet, and then spent the night dancing with kings and queens and shared the message of God’s love with all the honored guests and volunteers.

All while Tim Tebow and the TTF team were traveling Friday evening, Night to Shine events were happening simultaneously around the world.

This year alone, the Tim Tebow Foundation dedicated more than \$2.5 million to Night to Shine through financial grants assisting churches who wished to host, prom kits for each of the host churches including décor and gifts for the honored guest and individual staff support. The foundation’s commitment is made possible through the generous support of the event’s official Global Partner, American Residential Services.

Visit www.timtebowfoundation.org for more information on the Tim Tebow Foundation.

DANIEL TO HOLD ANNUAL BACKYARD BARBECUE APRIL 6

Daniel is holding its 10th annual Backyard Barbecue presented by Stubb’s Legendary Bar-B-Q on Saturday, April 6, from noon to 5 p.m. at Tailgaters Parking located at 225 Tallyrand Ave. in Jacksonville. Dozens of professional and amateur barbecue teams will gather to compete to win Backyard BBQ King, while attendees enjoy delicious samples, music and family fun. Net proceeds benefit the Glyn Cook scholarship program, which enables Daniel kids to further their education. Sponsorships and team registrations are still being accepted, and tickets to the event are \$15 each. Daniel is Florida’s oldest child-service agency — celebrating its 135th anniversary of community service this year. It assists an average of 3,000 children and families each day through a diverse range of innovative and nationally recognized programs. Daniel offers abused and emotionally troubled children refuge and counseling, connects kids with foster and adoptive homes, helps homeless teenagers find housing and jobs and more. For more information, visit DanielKids.org.

Photo courtesy of Daniel





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North Florida Land Trust boasts successful year at annual meeting

North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) recently delivered its annual report to the community and announced an increase in the organization's conservation of natural lands.

The nonprofit land conservation organization had a record year in 2018, spending approximately \$18 million to conserve more than 6,100 acres of land throughout North Florida.

"We are very lucky to have such a great partnership with Camp Blanding and the Army National Guard, who provided more than \$15 million dollars in 2018 for land conservation surrounding Camp Blanding and within the O2O wildlife corridor," said Jim McCarthy, president of NFLT and a Ponte Vedra resident. "Money from donors and at the local, state and federal level helped us reach some historic acquisitions in 2018; the largest conservation easements to date and the largest uplands acquisition to date. We were also able to acquire two square miles of the Floridan aquifer recharge area, which is beneficial to everyone because the Floridan aquifer provides fresh water to more than 90 percent of Floridians."

In 2018, NFLT focused on preserving land within the Ocala to Osceola, or O2O, wildlife corridor that stretches from the Ocala National Forest to the Osceola National Forest. According to NFLT, it provides important habitat for the Florida Black Bear and numerous endangered species, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, indigo snake and gopher tortoises.

NFLT is currently leading two conservation programs within the O2O: the Regional Conservation Partnership Program with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Army Compatible Use Buffer partnership with the Florida National Guard, which operates Camp Blanding. The 80,000-acre Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is central to the O2O landscape and partnership.

NFLT received the 2018 Environmental Stewardship Award from the Northeast Florida Regional Council for their work within the O2O. The award is given to an organization that focuses on long-term protection, conservation and enhancement of Northeast Florida's natural resources.

NFLT was also accredited in 2018 by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program by the Land Trust Alliance. The national recognition placed NFLT within a network of 398 accredited land trusts across the nation that have demonstrated a commitment to professional excellence and to maintaining the public's trust in their work.

In addition, NFLT was recognized in 2018 for the work the organization did to protect and preserve the 1898 Spanish American War Fort. NFLT received the Historic Preservation Award from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission and the 2018 Florida Preservation Organizational Achievement Award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. NFLT officially handed over the military battery to the National Park Service in December.

At the annual meeting, NFLT also recognized several people including new members of the McQuilkin Society, which honors major donors to the land conservation organization and was named for NFLT Founder Bill McQuilkin. Recognized at the meeting for their major donations were Ashley Dopf, Tom Dumas, Dr. Todd Sack, Dr. Barbara Sharp, Lila Elliot, Susan Edelman (on behalf of the Delores Barr Weaver Fund) and Matt and Sean McGarvey (on behalf of their father, Jay McGarvey). NFLT also recognized Camp Blanding Joint Training Center with the 2018 Partners Award and presented the Volunteer of the Year award to Sharron Fehrle and Tim Campbell.

For more information on NFLT, visit www.northfloridalandtrust.org.



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Business Weekly

Forever Vets celebrates grand opening of Nocatee location

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PAGE 25 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Photo courtesy of Katrine Strickland

Ponte Vedra resident Katrine Strickland has created Soulments, a mindfulness-based journaling and memory-capturing app designed especially for mothers.

Local mother creates digital app to help others capture life's greatest moments

By Jon Blauvelt

A Ponte Vedra resident and mother has created a mindfulness-based journaling and memory-capturing app designed especially for mothers.

Launched on the App Store at the end of 2018 by Katrine Strickland, Soulments enables moms and other users to remember and reflect on the fleeting moments in their kids' lives via the storage of photos, videos, quotes, milestones and more.

"It's just one place to store all of life's moments," said Strickland, who lives in Nocatee with her husband and two children. "I like to say it's a trea-

sure box for life's moments."

The Soulments journey began for Strickland in 2016, when she decided to go out on her own and work as a freelance marketing and public relations specialist. Previously working for several years in a corporate marketing role at Advanced Disposal, Strickland was seeking more of a work-life balance as her kids continued to grow up. She realized that time was precious, and she wanted to be in charge of her own schedule so she could maximize her time with family.

Simultaneously, Strickland started meditating and learning about mindfulness. She found that "living with

awareness and appreciation for the small and (big) things naturally breeds more grace and love," as stated on her app's website. In the midst of her mindfulness journey, the idea for Soulments came to Strickland.

She started talking with other moms and realized a common theme: The digital clutter is a real struggle for moms. Different people keep track of their child's milestones in different ways, Strickland said, but it didn't seem like anything was really working for them, including baby books in an increasingly digital world. And although popular,

APP continues on Page 29

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Forever Vets Animal Hospital opens in Nocatee, hosts grand-opening event

Forever Vets Animal Hospital recently opened a new location in Nocatee.

Located at 80 Pine Lake Drive, Suite A, in Ponte Vedra, the business hosted a grand-opening event on Feb. 2 to celebrate the occasion. Attendees of the event received free Chick-fil-A and goodie bags and enjoyed fire and regular baton twirling performances, a tour of the new office space, photo booth oppor-

tunities and coupons, prizes and rebates.

The new Nocatee business is open Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Forever Vets Animal Hospital, which offers preventative care, surgical services, emergency services, diagnostic services and more, also has six other locations in the Jacksonville area. Visit forevervets.com for more information.



The Forever Vets Animal Hospital mascot stands in front of the new Nocatee location, which is located at 80 Pine Lake Drive, Suite A.



Photos courtesy of Forever Vets Animal Hospital

The Forever Vets Animal Hospital team gathers at the grand-opening event for the business' new Nocatee location on Feb. 2.



Attendees enjoy the grand opening of Forever Vets Animal Hospital in Nocatee on Feb. 2.

It's 2019 and still ... no one seems to have a crystal ball



Ric Schilling
Columnist

By Ric Schilling

As you know, the stock market has been quite volatile the last couple of months with fluctuations in the Dow Jones Industrial Average frequently in the hundreds of points a day.

There have even been days where the cumulative movement of the index hit 1,000 points! This causes many people to become fearful that their savings are at risk and they choose to exit the market in favor of investing in money market funds or bank CDs. Is this a bad idea and, if so, why?

The lesson we learned many years ago from Dr. Harry Markowitz — professor of finance at Rady School of Management at the University of California, San Diego and creator of Modern Portfolio Theory (for which he won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences) — is that a portfolio of highly diversified investments will outperform almost any other investment

strategy over time. He considered the term portfolio to include all classes of assets such as stocks and bonds, mutual funds, options, annuities, money market funds, traded and non-traded CDs, REITs and real estate, collectibles and anything else of value held for investment purposes.

The idea behind his theory, which was proved through empirical research, is that the value of any one investment is constantly changing so the more diversified your investments, the greater likelihood that some will be increasing in value at the same time as some are declining. So, owning some money market funds or bank CDs is a good example of counterbalancing the risks associated with market investments. But putting all your eggs in either basket isn't the way to maximize your returns over time.

That is a particularly important lesson when we're coming off a year when the stock market lost money as it did in 2018 (the S&P 500 Index lost 6.2 percent for the year before accounting for dividends and about 4.8 percent net of dividends). Many people react to a loss, or the current

increased volatility we have seen recently, by exiting the market entirely in favor of less volatile investments.

The problem comes when they don't reengage the markets once the tremors have subsided. I've met with many people in recent years that exited the market during 2008-2009 and never reinvested. As a result, they never recouped the losses they incurred during that period and missed out on the greatest bull market we've experienced in our lifetimes.

With all this in mind, what is the best course of action now given the market's recent turmoil? There are many theories as to whether we are on the cusp of a recession or just reacting to the news of the day.

A few weeks ago, I read an article on msn.com regarding money, savings and investing going forward into 2019 (www.msn.com/en-us/money/savingandinvesting) suggesting several reasons to believe that 2019 will be a recovery year for the markets, albeit it less robust than some recent years of double-digit increases. I agree with their argument but with one difference — no one can predict the future

with certainty, so the best way to guard against experiencing a large loss is to be adequately diversified. You can thank Harry Markowitz for that idea.

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

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Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

The Guana Outpost team gathers with representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon-cutting event on Feb. 10 to celebrate the re-opening of its paddle launch.

Guana Outpost hosts Chamber for ribbon-cutting ceremony

The Guana Outpost recently celebrated the re-opening of its paddle launch in Ponte Vedra by hosting representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Sunday, Feb. 10 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Located at 4415 Mickler Road, the Guana Outpost offers kayaks, paddleboards and surfboards, as well as bait and tackle, clothing, beach gear, sunglasses and accessories and more.

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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty acquires Terry McCue Real Estate Inc.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty announced this week that it is acquiring Terry McCue Real Estate, Inc. and all of the company's related entities.

Terry McCue Real Estate and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty will merge to create a new family of companies that will operate under the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty name, effective March 1.

According to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, the merger will strengthen the company's already robust presence in the Beaches community, where Terry McCue Real Estate has been a family-owned and operated business serving the community for 50 years. Leaders at both companies expressed confidence in the merger and enthusiasm for the benefits it will provide.

"Both of our companies share the val-

ues of professionalism and integrity," said Christy Budnick, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty president and CEO. "Tracey and her team are consummate professionals with the same principles, culture and commitment to the community that we have nurtured in our own organization."

Terry McCue Real Estate was established in 1968 in the Jacksonville Beaches area. Founder Terry McCue Sr. worked for and was mentored by local Realtor Townsend Hawkes prior to establishing his own company. According to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, McCue is remembered as a Beaches real estate pioneer and highly regarded for his accomplishments, dedication and reputation.

"While it is bittersweet to retire the McCue name, it is important to remember that the legacy of Terry McCue is much

BERKSHIRE continues on **Page 29**

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Janet.Westling@bhhsfnr.com





Katrine Strickland with her family

Photos courtesy of Katrine Strickland

App

Continued from 25

Strickland said social media lacks privacy.

After conducting market research and holding focus groups and experiments, Strickland contracted with a solo entrepreneur in 2017 to create the app. Unfortunately, though, Strickland ran into difficulties with that partnership, as delay after delay ultimately resulted in her ending the project.

With a year of lost time and no workable code, Strickland questioned if she should move forward with the app. She ultimately decided, however, that not knowing what could have been was worse than failing, so she dug deep and found all the grit she could muster to push on.

Strickland's perseverance proved worthwhile, as she was accepted into Jacksonville's startup festival, One Spark, in April 2018. She was one of 75 creators who were invited to attend, and of those 75, she was one of eight selected to participate in the event's Spark Tank, which is intended to emulate the popular "Shark Tank" TV show. She pitched her idea and received helpful feedback and significant interest from attendees of the event.

Shortly thereafter, Strickland signed another statement of work with a development team out of Fort Lauderdale called the Trim Agency, which ultimately helped her build Soulments and launch the app at the end of December 2018.

"I think I'm most proud about creating something that will hopefully inspire people to reflect more on their life and remember and find joy in their memories," Strickland said. "I think there's happiness when we look back on our memories and what brought us joy. So creating a tool that makes that easy for people to do is what I'm most proud of. That potential to help people."

In addition to storing photos, videos, quotes and milestones, Soulments features custom notifications and prompts. Strickland worked with a behavioral psychologist, who is familiar with mindfulness and gratitude journaling, to help

create journaling prompts that can help people reflect. Prompts include questions such as, "What are three things that made you smile today?" and "How did you aim for grace and not perfection?" This practice, said Strickland, helps foster a sense of gratitude.

Soulments also offers parents and grandparents the opportunity to input their child or grandchild's name and birthday. By doing so, the app will periodically send custom notifications based on that name and birthday.

"So again, it's that reminder," Strickland said. "I heard so many times from moms that they just forget to capture those things, so Soulments provides that kind of gentle nudge on the shoulder. What is Clare into these days? What is Ryan's favorite book? So you can remember to plug that in so you don't forget it, because we forget things, we have a lot on our minds."

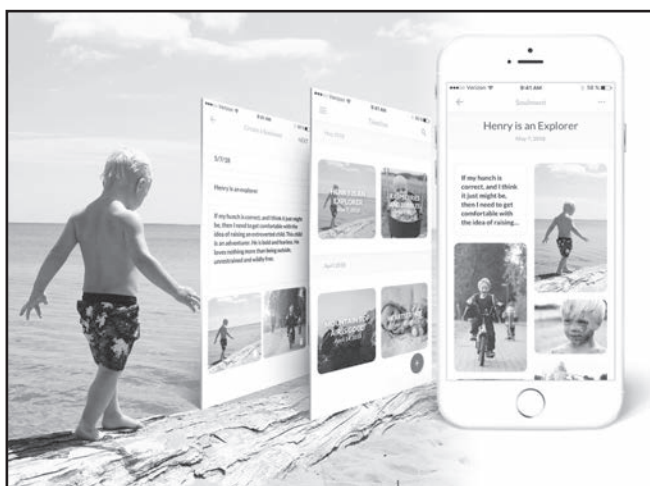
Strickland also stressed the privacy and security of the app, compared to social media, which she said people are starting to realize is not free due to advertising.

The Ponte Vedra resident also noted a feature of the app that is in development, called "Memory Books." The tool will allow users to print their memories directly from the app into high-quality photo books.

Currently available on the App Store only, Soulments is free to download with unlimited Soulments entries and full feature capabilities for two months. After the two-month trial period, subscription is \$3.99 per month or \$37.99 per year. More information about the app can be found online at www.soulments.com.

"I just want Soulments to help people to create a life well-loved, to be able to have something to reflect back on," Strickland said. "I think social media has become so much of the highlight reel and people want to post about their best moments."

"Soulments is the real reel," Strickland continued. "The real-life moments. It's for you. You don't have to worry about coming up with a witty caption or the perfectly filtered photo. It's real life, and it's much more beautiful, I think."



ABOVE: As described by Strickland, Soulments is "a treasure box for life's moments." Soulments is free to download with unlimited Soulments entries and full feature capabilities for two months. After the two-month trial period, subscription is \$3.99 per month or \$37.99 per year.

RIGHT: Soulments features custom notifications and prompts to encourage reflection, journaling and gratitude.



Berkshire

Continued from 28

more than a name," said his daughter, Tracey McCue Paulsen, CDPE, broker. "This is a win for all of us including our clients. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices is an iconic brand, providing us with more distinction and access to the best technology, tools, support and services in the marketplace."

According to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, the merger with Terry McCue Real Estate expands the company's ability to provide the Beaches and beyond with experience, exposure, service and convenience.

"We are excited to merge with a company that is so rooted in the Beaches community," said Don Cline, vice president of business development. "Broker Tracey McCue Paulsen is a multi-million-dollar producer with wide-ranging industry

experience. She is a tremendous asset to have on our team."

In addition to serving as broker/manager of the Beaches office, Cline's focus is on Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's growth including mergers and acquisitions.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has a team of more than 400 real estate professionals in nine offices throughout Northeast Florida. The company operates a corporate reloca-

tion division, a new home and condominium sales division, Florida Network Property Management, Gibraltar Title Services, LLC and Prosperity Home Mortgage, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty ranks as one of the Top 25 companies in the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network.

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, visit www.FloridaNetworkRealty.com or call (904) 296-6400.



Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry hosts Chamber ribbon cutting to celebrate PVB office

Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry celebrated the practice's new office location at Sawgrass Village in Ponte Vedra Beach with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Feb. 1 attended by representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. The ribbon cutting was also held in recognition of the practice's new membership with the Chamber.

Located at 340 Front St., Suite 770, the practice offers orthodontics, emergency care, pediatric anesthesiology, preventative care, extractions, fillings and crowns, among other services.

Opening its location in Ponte Vedra Beach in September 2018, the Sawgrass Village office is open on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The practice also has a location on Bayberry Road in Jacksonville. Visit www.setzerandcochran.com/index.html for more information.



The Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry team gathers with representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Feb. 1.

Photos by Susan Griffin



The new Ponte Vedra office for Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry is located at 340 Front St., Suite 770, in Sawgrass Village.

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Ponte Vedra High School theater department to open 'Our Town' Feb. 21

The fictional town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire will come to life this weekend as the Ponte Vedra High School's (PVHS) theatre department performs its production of Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, "Our Town."

Written in 1938, Wilder's play begins in the early morning, when a pair of twins are born, and ends at night, after one of the main characters surrenders bonds with the past and settles into a final resting place.

"Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?" the character asks, planting the same question in the minds of the audience.

"Our Town" highlights the passage of time, the fragility of life and the meta stage we live in. Wilder presents

a play within a play, with a main character known as the Stage Manager. His invented place is an idyllic piece of America where many long to return.

"We live each day too stressed to notice that life is passing by," said Jason Nettle, director and PVHS theatre instructor. "'Our Town' asks, 'If you could come back to any day, which day would you pick to relive and enjoy?' Why aren't we living that way now?"

The student production will be at Ponte Vedra High School's auditorium from Feb. 21 through Feb. 24. Shows are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased via cash or check at the door. Proceeds support the PVHS theatre department.



Photo courtesy of Michael Wicks

Becci Smith and John Willim lead a crowd in song following the Indigo Girls concert at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall on Feb. 9. Smith was the recipient of a signed guitar from a raffle at the event.

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall guitar raffle has unexpected ending

By Michael Wicks

Special to the Recorder

The Friends of the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall held a raffle for a signed guitar at the sold-out Indigo Girls show on Feb. 9, which turned out to have an unexpected outcome.

Becci Smith, a math teacher at St. Augustine High, was the lucky winner of the guitar but what happened after she won is what makes the evening so memorable. Smith and her husband, Mark, are longtime residents of St. Johns County and are avid concert goers. This was their fifth time seeing the Indigo Girls and their first time visiting the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. In retrospect, there were signs leading up to the show that this may be a special night.

After the winning number was called and Smith claimed her prize, her husband mentioned that she is a six-month breast cancer survivor and that this is just the type of experience that she deserves.

"We enter these types of raffles whenever possible and we've never won," Smith said.

Smith was soon engaged in conversation with Ponte Vedra resident John Willim, who asked her if she played the guitar. After explaining that she didn't but that it was on her list of things to do, Willim offered to play a song.

As Smith and Willim began to sing "Galileo," the crowd that had assembled for the auction began to join the chorus. At this point, building security was beginning the process of clearing the venue. What started as a guitar raffle ended with a chorus of concert goers being led out by a singing cancer survivor and a new friend playing guitar.

As Smith and her husband returned to the Sawgrass Marriott after the show, they shared photos and videos of the night via text message with their new guitar-playing friend and his sister, who had traveled from Atlanta for the show. Ironically, on this particular Saturday night, the Marriott was playing host to many of the runners of the DONNA Marathon.

In a lobby full of pink ribbons, a lucky, music-loving, guitar raffle-winning, breast cancer survivor shared a glass of wine with her husband.



Dr. Thomas Romero, Marie Lyon Carnie and Dr. Lexie Romero

OYBC hosts art show featuring local artist

Optimal You Brain Centers (OYBC) hosted the opening of an art show on Jan. 31 that featured the work of local artist Marie Lyon Carney.

The event allowed attendees to tour the offices of the new Ponte Vedra Beach business, which is located at 151 Sawgrass Corners Drive, Suite 102. A portion of the proceeds from the event benefited the HEAL Foundation.

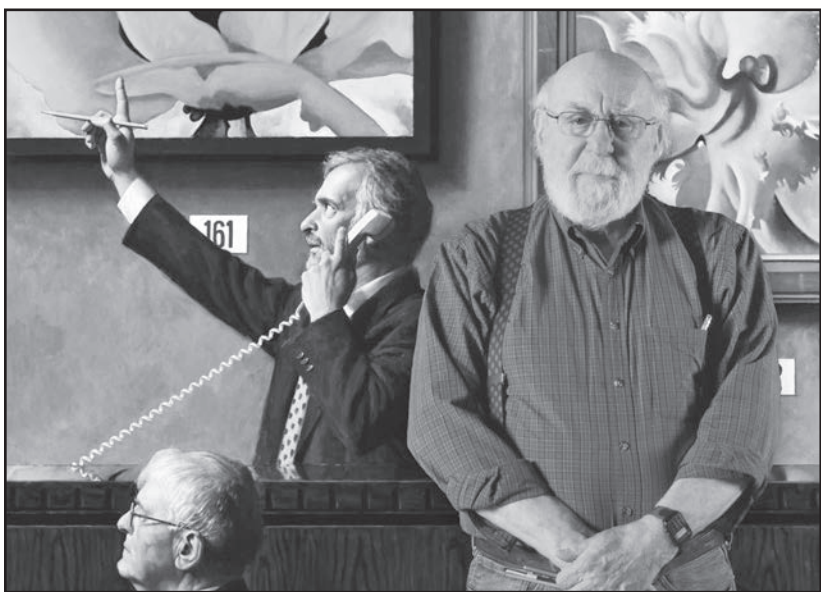


Laura Lewis and Jennifer Burns



Julie Davis and Pamela Schwarz

Photos by Susan Griffin



Photos courtesy of Cutter & Cutter

Daniel E. Greene will serve as juror of awards for the upcoming "Virtuosos of the OPA" exhibition at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art in St. Augustine March 1-31.



"Power of Nature" by Rou Li



"Water Pistol Fractal" by Lisa Fricker

Oil Painters of America to host "Virtuosos of the OPA" exhibition at Cutter & Cutter in St. Augustine

The Oil Painters of America (OPA) will hold the "Virtuosos of the OPA" exhibition at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art in St. Augustine on March 1-31.

Artists, collectors and art enthusiasts will find several recognizable names in this nationally and internationally acclaimed group of oil painters. All these artists have achieved OPA's Master Signature or Signature designation, a distinction only awarded to the very best artists who have gone through a rigorous vetting process.

OPA's membership is comprised of over 3,600 artists from across the United States, Canada and Mexico. This exhibition will include approximately 150 paintings by some of OPA's most renowned members. Total awards for this exhibition will be approximately \$10,000 in cash and merchandise. Internationally acclaimed artist Daniel E. Greene will serve as the juror of awards.

Greene is one of America's leading figure, portrait and still-life painters. His portrait subjects have been leaders of government, banking, education, industry, royalty and the arts. His

works hang in more than 700 public and private collections. In 1995, the American Society of Portrait Artists honored Greene with the John Singer Sargent Award for lifelong dedication to the achievement of excellence in portraiture. In 2017, a biography was published about Greene's work titled "Daniel E. Greene, Studios and Subways, An American Master, His Life and Art." He is the subject of two 2018 Museum Retrospective exhibitions at The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio and the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Connecticut.

An opening reception and award ceremony will be held for artists, collectors and the public on Friday, March 1 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art, located at 25 King St. in St. Augustine. Awards will be announced at 8:30 p.m. Admission is free, and all paintings will be for sale.

To purchase a painting from this year's exhibition, contact Cutter & Cutter Fine Art at (904) 810-0460 or see the entire exhibition online at www.cutterandcutter.com.

First Coast Opera to perform A Tribute to Marian Anderson March 1-3

First Coast Opera (FCO) will perform A Tribute to Marian Anderson on March 1 and March 3 at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in St. Augustine, and on March 2 at Players by the Sea in Jacksonville Beach.

The concert program will feature St. Augustine soprano Lisa Lockhart; Orlando mezzo-soprano Taylor-Alexis Dupont; Jacksonville jazz singer Mama Blue; and bass-baritone Carl DuPont from Charlotte, North Carolina.

The program will be accompanied on the piano by Bonita Wyke and hosted by FCO Artistic Director Curtis Tucker.

One of the most celebrated American singers of the 20th century, Anderson was both an exemplary performer and trailblazer of the civil rights movement. When she was not allowed to sing to an integrated audience in 1939, Eleanor Roosevelt invited her to sing a now-famous concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.

She later sang at the presidential inaugurations for both Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. In 1955, she became the first black singer at The Metropolitan Opera in New York. She was among the first class of artists to receive the Kennedy Center Honors.

FCO's concert will highlight her talent and perseverance, while also celebrating artists that followed, such as William Warfield, Paul Robeson, Leontyne Price and jazz greats Sarah

Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald.

According to Tucker, Anderson's story needs to be told and more widely known.

"Despite not being allowed to sing at many prestigious venues, she performed a huge repertoire of songs, spirituals, and arias," he said, "and she paved the way for many of America's best singers. It's an honor to share her story."

FCO performs at a variety of venues. This is the company's first performances at both St. Cyprian's in St. Augustine,

and Players by the Sea in Jacksonville Beach.

The tributes at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, located at 37 Lovett St. in St. Augustine, will be 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 1, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 3. The tribute at Players by the Sea, located at 106 6th St. North in Jacksonville Beach, will be at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 2.

Tickets for all performances are \$35 for adults and \$10 for students and are available by visiting firstcoastopera.com.

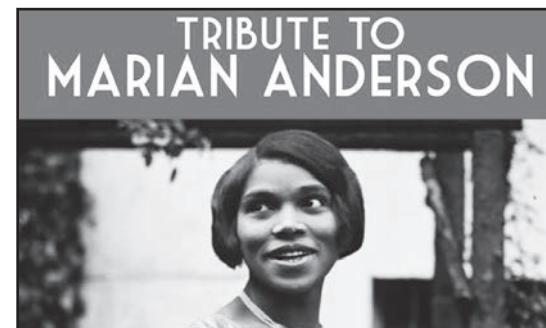


Photo courtesy of First Coast Opera

First Coast Opera will honor of the singer and civil rights icon Marian Anderson with a performance March 1-3.

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Sports



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 · PAGE 34

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PVHS falls to Palatka in district semifinals, finishes season with fewest wins in 9 years

By Jim Moyes

Special to the Recorder

After staying close with a talented Palatka five for the first half of last week's district semifinals, the Sharks ran into a buzzsaw in the second half as the Panthers ended the Ponte Vedra season, 58-37.

The Sharks trailed a Palatka team that went to the final four the previous season by only two points, 20-18, at the halftime break, and were still within striking distance at the third-quarter break, trailing 33-26. But then the wheels came off the Sharks in the final eight minutes of action as Palatka outgunned the Sharks 25-11 to pull away for an outcome that was much closer than the final score.

Only Reese Russi and Johnny Corlazzoli reached double figures for the Sharks, and just barely at 10 points each. Palatka did an outstanding job by nearly shutting out two of the top three scorers all season for PVHS. Luke Martin had five points, but none in the second half, while the team's leading scorer all year, Ben Houser, was held scoreless for the game.

With the defeat, the Sharks end the season with a record of 10-16, the team's fewest wins since the 2009-10 season.

Much work will have to be done before the start of the 2019-20 campaign, as Ponte Vedra will be without five graduating seniors who scored 87 percent of

SHARKS continues on Page 36

SPORTS BRIEFS

Nease girls basketball

After topping Columbia 59-26 in the regional quarterfinals last Thursday, Feb. 14, the Nease Lady Panthers defeated Middleburg 67-42 in the regional semifinals on Tuesday. Nease will host Booker T. Washington in the regional finals at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22.

Ponte Vedra girls basketball

The Ponte Vedra Lady Sharks lost to the Eastside High School Rams of Gainesville last Thursday, Feb. 14, in the quarterfinal round of the regional state tournament. The Lady Sharks started off hot and took a 12-point lead after the first quarter but let the lead dwindle to a basket by halftime, leading 23-21. Ponte Vedra applied the defensive pressure in the third quarter and clung to a 34-30 lead going into the final quarter. The Lady Rams turned on the offense and outscored the Sharks 11-4 in the fourth quarter to win 41-38. The Sharks were led by the defensive play and basket making of sophomore Trish Balsler (17 points) and the inside play of senior Gillian Boss (11 points). The loss concludes the 2018 season for the Lady Sharks, who finished the season 15-10.

Ponte Vedra boys soccer

After defeating Arnold High School (Panama City Beach) 3-1 in the regional finals on Feb. 13, the Ponte Vedra boys soccer team fell to Seabreeze High School (Daytona Beach) in the state semifinals last Saturday, Feb. 16. Tied at three after regulation, the Sharks ultimately lost in penalty kicks. Ponte Vedra finished the season 15-4-2.

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GIN BLOSSOMS
THE BLACK MOODS
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STRINGDUSTERS
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MARCH 8

10,000 MANIACS
MARCH 9

FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC
PROJECT PRESENTS
SCHUMANN
MARCH 10

WJCT PRESENTS
JEFF TWEEDY **SOLD OUT**
JAMES ELKINGTON
MARCH 11

A BOWIE CELEBRATION
BOWIE ALUMNI TOUR
MARCH 15

ROGER MCGUINN
MARCH 16

BUCKETHEAD
MARCH 20

JOAN OSBORNE
SINGS THE SONGS OF BOB DYLAN
MARCH 21

SHAWN COLVIN
MARCH 29

THE EARLS OF LEICESTER
FEAT. JERRY DOUGLAS
APRIL 5

WE THREE
APRIL 7

PAT METHENY
JAMES FRANCIES & NATE SMITH
APRIL 9

DAVE ALVIN &
JIMMIE DALE GILMORE
THE GUILTY ONES
APRIL 12

TAB BENOIT
APRIL 13

EDWIN MCCAIN
APRIL 17

THE WEIGHT
FEAT. MEMBERS OF THE BAND
& THE LEVON HELM BAND
APRIL 18

TINSELY ELLIS
APRIL 19

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SIGNING DAY

Ponte Vedra High School, Nease and the Bolles School recently hosted special ceremonies on Feb. 6 to honor student-athletes for committing to a particular college or university to continue their athletic and academic careers.

The following student-athletes were honored:

PONTE VEDRA HIGH SCHOOL Football

Christian Rollinson, Lafayette College
Peter Merlino, Middlebury College
Jack Murrah, Furman University

Baseball

Carter Page, Daytona State College
Tony Roca, University of North Florida
Sebastian Rothman, South Georgia State College
Michael Soncrant, Florida Southern College

Lacrosse

Jimmy Burns, The University of Massachusetts Lowell

Jack Dowd, Furman University
Caroline O'Neil, Kenyon College
Maximus Schalit, University of Notre Dame

Volleyball

Paige Johnson, Davidson College

Golf

Davis E. Lee, University of North Florida

Softball

Michelle Leone, Penn State University

Tennis

Kaivon Minaei, Lynn University
Ryan Thompson, Lafayette College

Skeet shooting

Chase Schmidt, Jacksonville University



Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra High School



NEASE Football

Collin Hartley, Concordia University
Preston Staples, Stetson University
April Sanchez, Hofstra

THE BOLLES SCHOOL Baseball

Will Shepherd, Dartmouth College
Jack Brady, University of Florida
Kyle Coffindaffer, Marist College

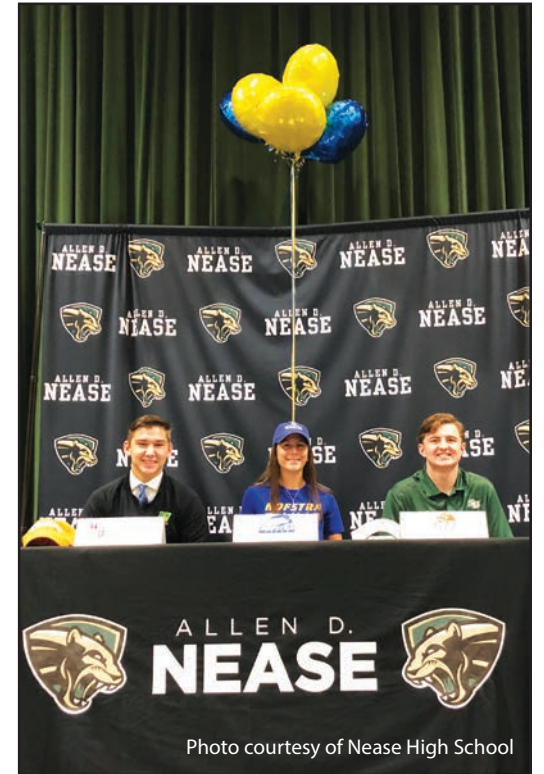


Photo courtesy of Nease High School

Michael Jubran, Jacksonville University
Kel McCloud, Benedict College
Chris Sanders, Florida A&M University
Pearson Toomey, Furman University

Women's Soccer

Claire Cywes, Haverford College

Men's Swimming

Adrian Grant, Florida Institute of Technology
Miles Herman, Skidmore College
Ethan Thomas, Boston University

Women's Swimming

Camila Batista, University of New Mexico
Ashley Rabinovich, Wingate University



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Ponte Vedra grapplers defeat Nease in Battle of the Bridge

Ponte Vedra recently topped Nease in wrestling in the annual renewal of the Battle of the Bridge.

The Sharks came away with the victory by a final score of 54-30. In a match with many forfeited weight classes, Ponte Vedra's high moments featured pins by Ethan Baur at 145 pounds and Troy Maritato at 182 pounds. Both lineups were hampered by injuries with many wrestlers trying to heal for the postseason.

The evening's wrestling was preceded by Ponte Vedra's senior night ceremony, which recognized outgoing seniors, Simon Mann, Preston Turner and Troy Maritato.

Both Nease and Ponte Vedra



ABOVE: Senior captain Troy Maritato wins by pin against Nease in his final home match at 182 pounds. Maritato was a four-year starter for the Sharks and will attending The Citadel next year in Charleston, South Carolina.

LEFT: PVHS junior Ethan Baur wins by pin against Nease.

Photos courtesy of Rod Maritato

competed at the District Wrestling Tournament at Matanzas High School

on Wednesday, before this edition of the Recorder went to the printer.

Sharks

Continued from 34

the points this season. Only returning reserves James Kohnke and Caden Fordham saw extended minutes.

All five of the departing seniors did make a mark in the Ponte Vedra record book following the loss to Palatka.

With more than 600 career points, Reese Russi stands at No. 5 in all-time PVHS scoring, while Ben Houser slipped into the top 10 rankings at No. 7.

Luke Martin displayed expert marksmanship at the free throw stripe by nailing 60 of his 70 free throw attempts and will cap his career by making 86 of his 107 charity tosses. His 85.7 percent for the season and 80.3 percent for his two-year career nudges him just ahead of Jackson Johnson in percentages. In fairness to Johnson, Martin's sample size was much smaller than Johnson's. Johnson, who played division 1 basketball at Tulane, made his mark by attempting 458 shots, more than four times Martin's 107.

Logan Conway was the defensive ace for the current Sharks. The two-sport standout ended his career with nearly 100 steals, good for sixth all-time in Sharks annals. Johnny Corlazzoli, who capped his career by playing his finest basketball down the stretch, will see his name posted in the record books as the sixth all-time career assist leader at Ponte Vedra High.

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THEME: '80s MUSIC

ACROSS

- "Formerly," formerly
- *Steven Tyler to Liv
- *"Ebony ____ Ivory"
- Shakespeare king
- Depression drifter
- *One with lonely heart
- Epiphany guests
- Sir Mix-____
- *"Free Fallin" performer
- *"This is what it sounds like when ____"
- Day before, pl.
- Scandinavian fjord, e.g.
- *"Sweet dreams ____ made of..."
- *"Clock strikes up the hour and the sun begins ____"
- Iceman to cinema
- Time frame
- Maximum
- Greek liqueur
- Escape
- Black and white sea bird
- Razor sharpener
- Antonym of all
- Starting time
- Chowed down
- Like geometric reasoning
- Styled with salon goo
- Decompose
- Past participle of bear

- Duck-like black bird
- *A-ha's hit
- Folium, plural
- Argonauts' propellers
- Container weight
- Apartments, e.g.
- Black-eyed legumes
- Author Murdoch
- Opposite of paleo
- Checked at bar, pl.
- Catholic fasting period

DOWN

- "Slippery" tree
- Done between the lines
- Kind of palm
- Alex Trebek's forte
- Big name in fashion
- Terminate, as in mission
- Half-rotten
- Pot contribution
- In proximity to the Knicks
- *Def Leppard album, "High 'n' ____"
- Pork meatloaf
- Phantom's favorite genre?
- *"We've got to hold on to what ____"
- Provide with ability
- *"Goody Two Shoes" singer, Adam ____
- "Tiger Beat" audience

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

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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.

- Lowest deck
- Flora's partner
- Says "what?"
- Beyond suburban
- Stake driver
- *Swing ____ Sister
- *"Just a city boy born and raised in South ____"
- Dictation taker
- Quaker Man's cereal
- Emergence
- Itsy-bitsy bits
- Dal staple
- Talked like a sheep
- Ladies' fingers
- Orange traffic controller
- Spaghetti aglio and ____
- Serengeti antelope
- Foal's mother
- "Joannie Loves Chachi" actress
- *"Oh girls just want to have ____"
- NYC time

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