

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

August 22, 2019

Volume 47, No. 137

75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

GTM RESEARCH RESERVE CELEBRATES

20 YEARS

Staff, volunteers and friends of the GTM Research Reserve celebrated its 20th anniversary with a reception Aug. 16 at the Visitor Center in Ponte Vedra Beach. The official designation date of the GTM Research Reserve was Aug. 19, 1999.

Read more on page 8. More Going Green stories on pages 5 and 7.

Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh



CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!
Help us celebrate
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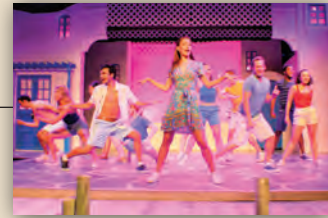


Local Luxury Listings

Pages 16-19

In the Arts

Pages 26-28



CAR OF THE WEEK

2017 PORSCHE PANAMERA
TURBO AWD

3,274 MILES, NEW \$157,915
STK# 11610

PRICE \$108,900



Serving Ponte Vedra and
the Beaches since 1969,
and now Nocatee



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One of Us

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to pvrecorder@opcfla.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

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

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email answer to pvrecorder@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.

Two readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Club Pilates. The winner by random draw was **Amy Davidson**. Congratulations, Amy — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Rorie was an owner surrender. She is a large, spayed, 2-year-old female domestic shorthair. She is great with kids, cats, dogs and is housetrained. She wants you to pet her and love on her while she talks to you. Come see Rorie today at the Pet Center. #50884



DOG OF THE WEEK

Loki was an owner surrender. He is a small, neutered, 1-year-old male terrier mix. He is housetrained, good with cats, dogs and loves water. He has lots of energy, so he would be good with older children. He loves to be cuddled and held. Come see Loki today at the Pet Center. #50126



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

C	R	O	S	S	C	O	S	V	E	T	O		
H	E	N	C	E	A	B	C	T	E	R	R	A	
O	A	T	E	N	I	I	I	A	R	G	O	T	
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A	R	C	A	R	T	S	T	A	B	O	R	S	
M	E	A	T	I	O	T	A	S	U	N	U	P	
I	D	L	Y	C	O	M	M	A	M	I	N	E	
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3	8	9	5	7	4	6	1	2
4	5	6	8	2	1	9	7	3
2	7	1	6	9	3	8	5	4
5	1	8	3	6	2	7	4	9
7	9	2	1	4	8	5	3	6
6	4	3	9	5	7	1	2	8
9	6	4	7	3	5	2	8	1
8	3	5	2	1	6	4	9	7
1	2	7	4	8	9	3	6	5

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

Discover something **NEW!**

AFRICAN FOREST

JACKSONVILLE
ZOO AND GARDENS

jacksonvillezoo.org



Oceanfront Retreat

Built to take advantage of the captivating water views and north of Mickler's Landing, this 4,878 property includes a pool and new roof (2017). With 150 ft. of ocean frontage this 1.45-acre lot is the ideal place to make your private beach retreat.
6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths \$3,750,000



Stunning Riverfront Estate

Riverfront/ San Marco
 Instantly makes you feel you've been swept away to a chateau in France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204-sq-ft. Tudor-style home is a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining.
5 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath \$6,900,000



Panoramic Views

With the Guana River to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east, this oceanfront home offers stunning panoramic views. Built with top engineering designs, this home thoughtfully merges comfort with sustainability.
7 bedrooms, 7.5 baths \$2,950,000



Most Desired Oceanfront Location in NE Florida

Las Mirandas / Oceanfront Condo
 This first-floor fully furnished unit was totally renovated with the finest finishes & craftsmanship. Includes an office, staurnia floors, mahogany doors & built-in custom cabinetry.
2 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms + powder room \$1,650,000

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first coast
ARTISTS

STOP BY AND SEE ALL OF THE ARTWORK ON DISPLAY.

Ponte Vedra Recorder
Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

1102 A1A N, Unit 108 | Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
 About a half mile South of the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

For more information about these works, the artists, or other works, contact Bob Nickerson at First Coast Artists at 904.280.8187.

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GRAND CAY VILLAS



MLS 997183 | \$144,000
OPEN HOUSE 8/24 - 11:00-2:00
 Fully furnished third floor unit with 1 bed, 1 bath, open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, & wrap-around screened lanai. Grand Cay is located just a couple minutes to the beach & offers a swimming pool, fitness center, & car wash.
Diana Kelly | 904.859.4368
DianaKelly@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

MLS 1002676 | \$145,000
OPEN HOUSE 8/24 - 11:00-2:00
 Enjoy Ponte Vedra Beach living near shopping, restaurants, golf, & the beach in this charming 1 bed, 1 bath condo located on the first floor. Features open floor plan, large walk-in shower, lanai with storage closet, & assigned parking space directly out front.
Cynthia S Lupi | 904.814.5058
CLupi@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

MLS 968477 | \$175,000
 Enjoy the salt life at Ponte Vedra Beach in this beautiful gated condominium community nestled along prestigious TPC Champions Golf Course. This second story unit offers a spacious screened lanai & split bedroom floor plan separated by an open living room & dining area.
Dina Boscio | 904.891.8309
DinaBoscio@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

MLS 1008651 | \$187,000
OPEN HOUSE 8/24 - 11:00-2:00
 Well-maintained second story unit with neutral colors, new rugs, large storage closet, & garage. Enjoy views of the preserve from the screened porch & lots of green walking space, a community pool, playground, club house, & gym.
Joann E Pasquale | 904.923.5817
JPasquale@WatsonRealtycorp.com

MLS 1004462 | \$188,900
OPEN HOUSE 8/24 - 11:00-2:00
 Beautiful third floor condo with vaulted ceilings, wood floors, & crown molding. Offers the largest 2 bedroom floor plan, spacious great room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters & stainless steel appliances, & covered balcony overlooking the wooded courtyard.
John Richardson | 904.465.5110
JRichardson@WatsonRealtycorp.com



Interested in your home's value? Call our Watson Office: 904.285.6300
 Like us on Facebook! Facebook.com/WatsonPonteVedra



Cheers to 50 Years!

Miniskirts, go-go boots, the Ponte Vedra Recorder

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Long hair on men and short skirts on women made for interesting times as the 1960s grooved into the 1970s. Fashion was questionable at best.

What were milestone events in your life in 1969? Were you born or married in '69? Maybe you started a business or work for a company that opened its doors that year.

The Ponte Vedra Recorder first hit the streets in 1969 and your community paper wants to share its 50th celebration. Send us your stories and photographs sharing memories about 1969. How much was your rent or mortgage payment? What do you remember about Ponte Vedra, Palm Valley or the surrounding area? Did you really swim in the ditch?

Where did you go to school and what was it like? Send us your school pictures. Tell us about your favorite music, fashion, sports or recreation. Where did you hang out and why?

For lifetime residents, what has changed? What changes made living in the area better or worse? For newcomers, what made you call this home?

Send your photographs and memories to chris@opcfla.com with "Cheers to 50 years" in the subject line.



Image courtesy of Dutch National Archives

BRIEFS

Apply to become delegate to 2019 Florida Democratic Party State Convention

Every two years, during the odd-numbered years and when General Elections are not held, the Florida Democratic Party holds its convention in October. The 2019 convention will be held at the Disney Coronado Resort the weekend of Oct. 11-13.

In order to become a delegate to the FDP convention, it is necessary to be a registered Democrat and to fill in a delegate form available at www.floridadems.org/convention. The printed and signed form should be returned to the St. Johns Democratic Office, along with a check for the registration fee of \$45, payable to DEC. The registration fee for students is \$25. The deadline to return forms is Thursday, Aug. 28. The St. Johns Democratic Party is allocated 45 delegates, in addition to four automatic delegates.

For more information, call (904) 825-2336 or email stjohnsdemocraticparty@gmail.com. The office is located at 71 South Dixie Highway, Suite 6, St. Augustine, FL 32084 and is open Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free Narcan at 'Stop the Stigma St. Augustine' event

The St. Johns County Poly-Drug Task Force is hosting a community event called Stop the Stigma St. Augustine from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 28, in front of St. Augustine City Hall at 75 King Street. The event is being held in conjunction with International Overdose Awareness Day, which is held annually on or near Aug. 31st.

There will be free Narcan to anyone who attends and gets a short training on how to dispense it to someone who has overdosed. According to Dr. Anna Schuchat, the Center for Disease Control's principal deputy director, the number of naloxone prescriptions dispensed by U.S. retail pharmacies doubled from 2017 to last year, rising from 271,000 to 557,000 which could be the reason that the number of overdose deaths have decreased in 2018 in a preliminary count. Our goal is to educate everyone to be able to save a life.

There will be presentations by speakers and a special candlelight remembrance ceremony to honor those lost to overdose and addiction and to support those who are grieving. For more information about the event please contact MaryAnn Chupella at bomar540@hotmail.com.

The St. Johns County Poly-Drug task force is providing community-wide efforts to address the Opioid Crisis and other related substance use issues. Monthly meetings are open to anyone interested and are held at the St. Johns County Health and Human Services building at 9 a.m. every third Wednesday.

St. Johns County Beach Renourishment Easement Workshop

St. Johns County is hosting a community workshop regarding easements within the Army Corps of Engineers beach renourishment project boundary from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 4 at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Estuarine Research Reserve, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. County and Army Corps staff will be available to assist property owners and answer questions regarding the required easements.

For more information, call (904) 209-0794.

Compiled by Christine Rodenbaugh

2019 Women of Distinction SJC announced

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council recently announced its 2019 Women of Distinction St. Johns County event and honorees.

The special event is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19 at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine.

Women of Distinction, GSGC's signature event, honors outstanding women in St. Johns County for professional accomplishments, service to others and community impact. The honorees are influential female leaders who positively impact and support their communities.

The 2019 Women of Distinction St. Johns County honorees are Jeannette



Jeannette Bajalia

Bajalia, Woman's Worth LLC and Petros Financial Group LLC; Monique Keaton, Ketterlinus Elementary School; Megan Wall, St. Johns County Legal Aid; and JuAnne Weeks, retired educator.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities support the council's mission of build-

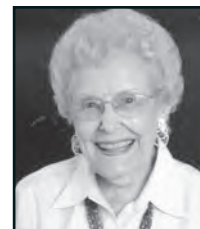


Monique Keaton



Megan Wall

ing girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place in St. Johns County and surrounding areas. To become a sponsor or to purchase a ticket, visit www.girlscouts-gateway.org/wod-sjc or call TriciaRae Stancato at (904) 421-3484 or email tstancato@girlscouts-gateway.org.



JuAnne Weeks

Divided government is topic of essay contest for 10th- to 12th-grade students

The lawyers and judges of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, and the members of the Jacksonville Chapter of the Federal Bar Association recently announced the 2019 High School Essay Contest.

In its second year, the contest is open to students currently in grades 10 through 12 in counties in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida — Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Hamilton, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, and Union. Winners of the 2018 Essay Contest came from Nassau, Duval and Baker Counties.

This year, students entering the contest are asked to reflect on the concepts of balance of powers and checks and balances. The contest requires students to respond to the following prompt.

The Founding Fathers created a "divided government" by separating important powers among each of the three branches — executive, legislative and judicial. To prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful, the Framers established a system of checks and balances. Some argue, however, the concepts of separation of powers and checks and balances undermine the government's ability to swiftly and decisively respond to problems facing the nation.

Identify a historical or current event that exemplifies the concepts of separation of powers and checks and balances.

Drawing on primary sources, evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a "divided government."

Student Essays must be submitted no later than noon, Monday, Oct. 7. The essays will be judged by Jacksonville lawyers who will submit the top-10 essays to the judges of the Jacksonville Division for selection of the first, second and third place winners.

Prizes to the winners of the Essay Contest are made possible by the lawyers and judges of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida through the Middle District Bench Bar Fund.

The prizes are: First place — \$2,000; second place — \$1,000; third place — \$500; and fourth through 10th place — \$50.

In addition to the prize awards, a \$500 Classroom Grant will be awarded to the teachers of the top three winners.

Winners and their teachers will be recognized at a special ceremony in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse in Jacksonville on Nov. 20. The top three winners will also be recognized in December at the Spirit of Giving Luncheon, an annual event of the Jacksonville Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Additionally, the first place winner will be given the opportunity to shadow a federal judge for a day.

For more information, visit www.flmd.uscourts.gov.

Zero calorie sweetener found in Guana Lake

Study of water quality shows evidence of wastewater originating north of Mickler's Weir

By Amber Lake

There is currently a crisis at the Indian River Lagoon on the Atlantic Coast of Florida. The carcasses of belly-up fish rim the shoreline and dead manatees waft in clusters, floating together in the hot sun. Outside the lagoon, tourists bypass highway junctions and fishing poles collect cobwebs in their garages. The ecological damage to the poorly drained estuary might as well be the looming thunder of an economic storm cloud rolling over the entire state. Currently, a parallel story is playing out again at Lake Okeechobee and St. Lucie on Florida's Southwest coast.

It's no news that the blooms of deadly blue-green algae and red tide caused the situation, and human pollution is likely to blame. In contaminated waters, when the conditions are right, the blooms will literally choke the life out of their surroundings, in turn causing a ripple effect big enough to shake the home of Disney World.

Nobody can live without water. Clean recreational waters are especially vital in the

Sunshine State where tourism is the running currency of almost every county.

The Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve is alive and well. However, there is evidence that human waste is making its way to the lake and a grassroots effort to investigate it is underway.

According to a two-year summary report of Guana's water quality, a north-south gradient level of sucralose was found, indicating that human wastewater was originating north from Mickler's Weir. Nikki Dix, research director and co-author of the report said sucralose indicates human waste influence since the artificial sweetener passes through the digestive system mostly undegraded. She says the levels at Guana are most likely from wastewater irrigation.

"We don't have specific sources, but because it was sucralose, we know it's human," Dix said. "It could be a few potential sources. One is wastewater treatment effluent because sucralose doesn't get treated by wastewater treatment process. In Ponte Vedra they do a lot of wastewater reuse. So, they are using it on golf courses and stuff. When that runs off it can get down to the lake."

Interestingly, Dix was able to determine irrigation as the main influence, due to the lack of Acetaminophen in the water as well.

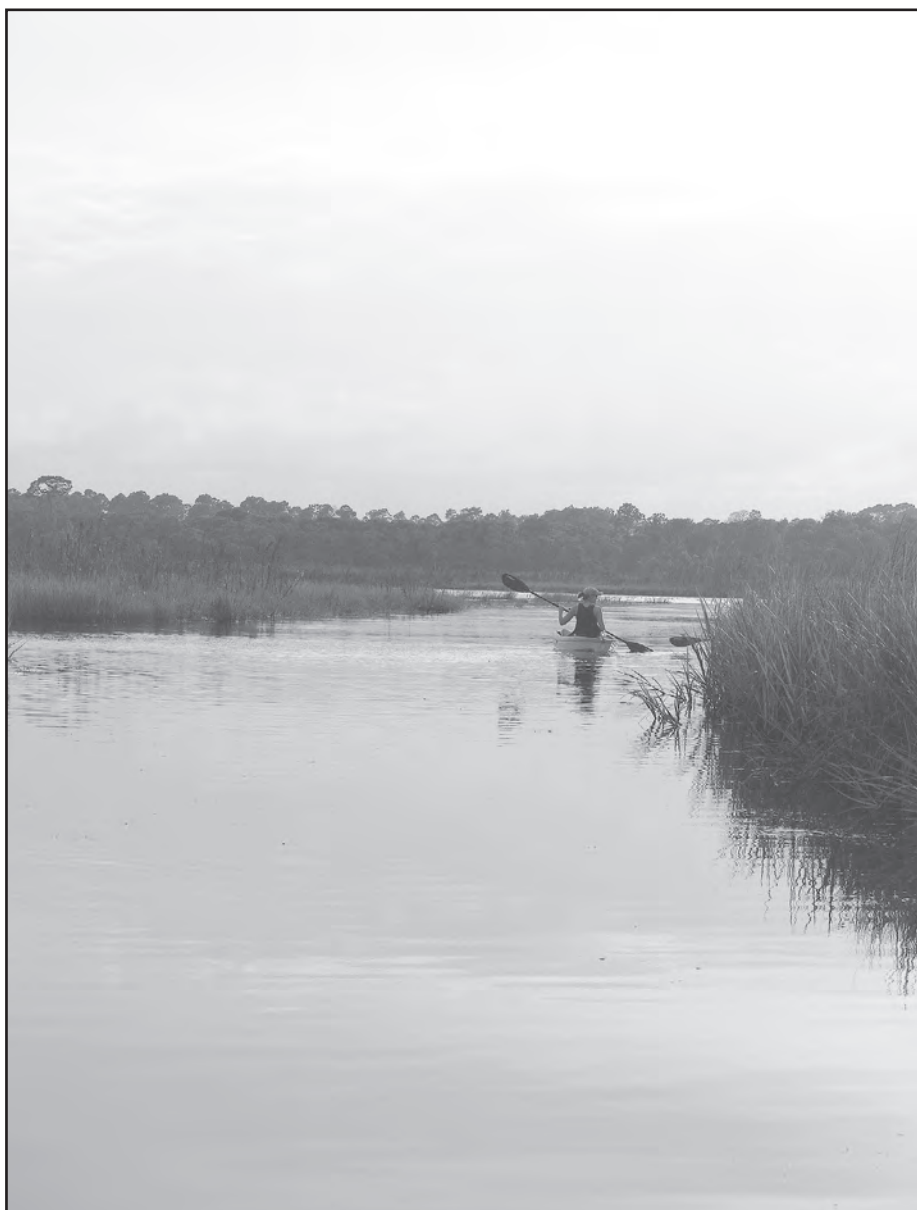


Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

A kayaker slices through the water in Guana Lake as the sun begins to set Aug. 19. Elevated sucralose levels may be a sign that treated wastewater is making its way on the waterway.

GUANA LAKE continues on Page 7



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

In February, an electric vehicle charging station became available on DeSoto Place near City Hall in downtown St. Augustine. The station was made possible with funding through the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY

GTM Research Reserve

505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
One Schneider Electric Level 2 charging station is located in front of the Visitor Center. Free, no card required. The hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Northeast Florida Regional Airport

4900 US-1, St. Augustine, FL 32095
One J-1772 station.

Best Western

2465 FL-16, St. Augustine, FL 32092
Small unit near the entrance. One J-1772 station.

St. Augustine Supercharger

2700 FL SR-16, St. Augustine, FL 32092
I-95 exit 318. Tesla superchargers are located at St. Augustine Premium Outlet Mall on the west side of I-95. They are northeast of the main mall's food court, on the southeast side of the smaller building containing the Eddie Bauer and Gap stores.

St. Augustine Outlets

500 Outlet Mall Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084
One CHAdeMO station and one CCS/SAE station

Hampton Inn St. Augustine – Historic

2050 N Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084

Two Tesla Connectors (up to 40A) and one Clipper Creek J1772 (up to 32A) are available for hotel patrons only.

Best Western Historical Inn

2010 N Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084 United States
One Tesla Connector (up to 40A) and one Clipper Creek J1772 (up to 32A) are available for patrons only.

Holiday Inn St. Augustine – Historic

1302 N Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084
Two Tesla stations available.

Columbia Restaurant

98 St. George St., St. Augustine, FL 32084
Three Tesla Connectors (up to 80A) and one Clipper Creek J1772 (up to 40A) are available.

Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront

32 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, FL 32084
One Tesla Wall Connector (up to 40A) and one Clipper Creek J1772 (up to 32A) are available for patrons only.

Courtyard St. Augustine Beach

605 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080
Six Tesla Chargers for guests. Two J1772. Check in to charge. Chargers are the left side of the building when looking in from street.

Casa Monica Resort & Spa

95 Cordova St., St. Augustine, FL 32084
One Tesla Connector (up to 40A) and one Clipper Creek J1772 (up to 40A) are available for patrons only.

St Augustine Public Parking

1-35 Desoto Place, St. Augustine, FL 32084
Charging is free. Parking is \$2.50 per hour on weekdays. Max 3 hours for a J-1772; two stations.

TRYP by Wyndham Sebastian St. Augustine

333 S Ponce de Leon Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084
One Tesla High Power Wall Connector (up to 80A) is available for patrons only.

Bozard Ford Lincoln

540 Outlet Mall Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32084
Two Leviton Level 2 chargers, one on the left (northwest) side of the showroom near delivery area under covered awning and another located in service area. Free, no card required. Several outdoor Level 1 outlets around building.

Jack Wilson Chevrolet

2255 US Hwy 1 S., St. Augustine, FL 32086
Voltec Level 2 charger located on the north (right) side of the main building. Free, no card required. Nearby picnic table. Ichiban Buffet next door.

Compiled by Amber Lake

Jennifer Dew is a Florida native who realized her passion of working with pets by providing an easy-to-use pet care service to the Ponte Vedra community she calls home.

Jennifer Dew

What can you share about your background?

I was born in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, raised in Greensboro, North Carolina, and have two older brothers. I graduated from the University of Tennessee Knoxville in 1998 and received my Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, marketing. I was also an NCAA Division I Lady Volunteer Varsity Rower for Tennessee. I moved to the Jacksonville area from Atlanta in 2000 and fell in love with our Beaches community. I rented a little duplex by the sea in Neptune Beach and decided I could never be landlocked again! I married Mark in 2003 and we purchased our first home here in Ponte Vedra Beach in 2004. We couldn't imagine our lives anywhere else; and I can truly say that no matter where we travel, we love coming home more.

Have you always had pets?

Yes. I've felt a special connection with animals my entire life. I grew up going to the farm just about every day and riding horses, and there wasn't a time when my family didn't open our home to a dog or cat in need of rescuing. For me, a house just doesn't feel like a home without a pet. Just before Mark and I got married, we rescued our cat, Otis, and our dog, Pete. We raised Pete for 14 years and Otis is still kickin' it at 17! I truly believe our pets are a gift from God and each of them finds a unique way to bless and inspire our lives.

What inspired you to launch 9 to 5 Pets?

For 20 years I worked in sales, marketing and business development for both the corporate and nonprofit sectors. During that time, I experienced the pressure of trying to make time for it all in a "9 to 5" day. As devoted a pet parent as I wanted to be, there were times, unfortunately, when Pete and Otis got the "short end of the stick" when early meetings, deadlines and business travel pulled me away.

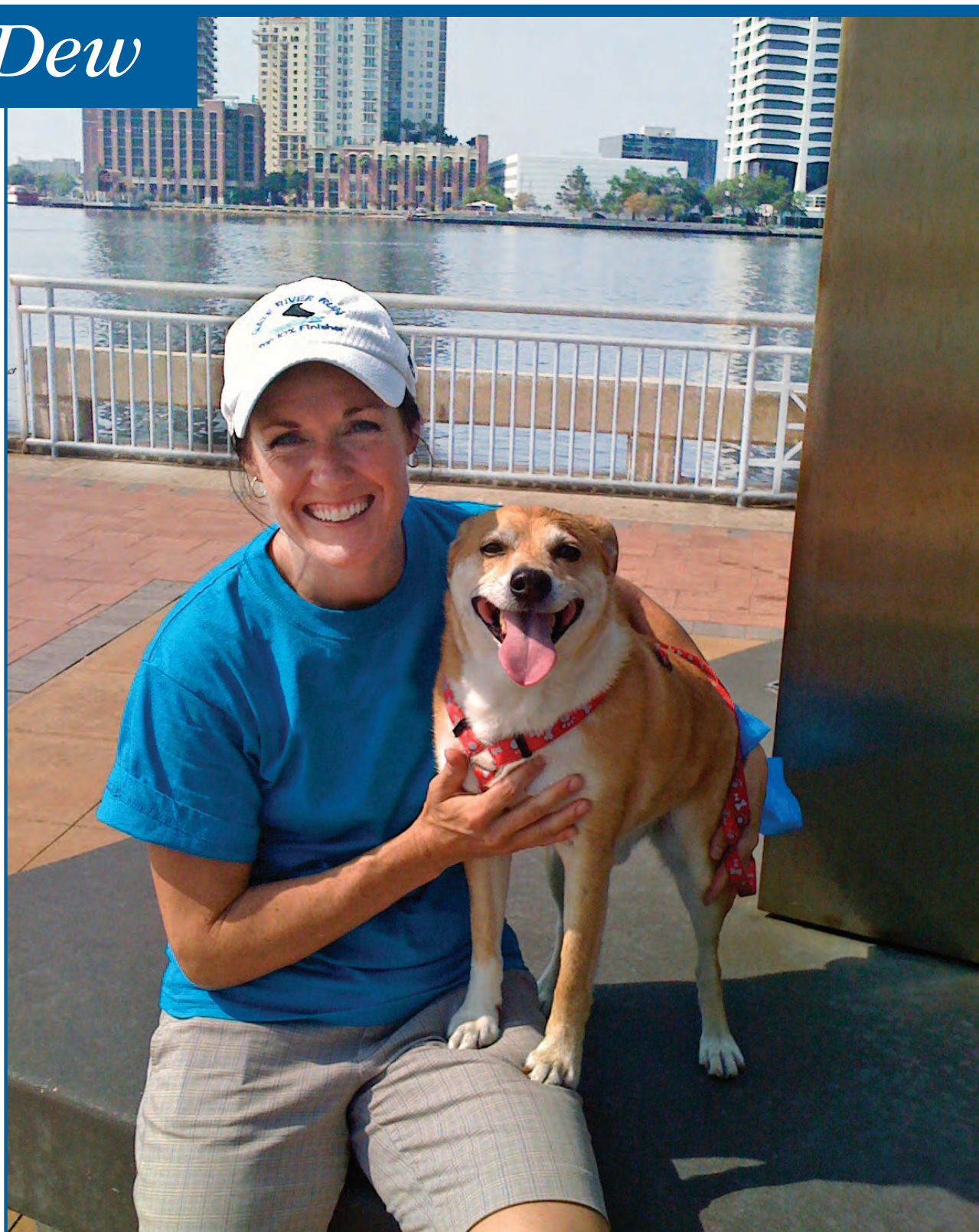
I've always believed the sky is the limit when you dream big, believe in yourself and work hard. We CAN have it all, but I've learned it can be hard to manage it all. And the last thing we want to feel is guilty about not giving our furry companions the love and attention they deserve. Or worse still, stress when we've left them too long or must leave them behind.

In this busy 9 to 5 world, we can all use a helping hand so, in 2017 I was inspired to find my joy, follow my passion and launch 9 to 5 Pets to help bring a professional, dependable and easy-to-use pet care service to the people and pets in the community I love and can certainly relate to.

How has technology changed the services offered to clients?

Like many businesses back in the day, client records and pet records were kept on paper, reservations were made by phone and clients would have to worry if sitters were really there for the pets. Visit notes (if any) were handwritten by the sitter and left on the kitchen counter. Clients had to pay via cash or check.

The technology now available to pet care professionals has allowed us to serve our clients more efficiently, with greater excellence and with far more transparency. At 9 to 5 Pets, we have a secure online client portal and free mobile app where clients enjoy the convenience of quickly updating their client and pet information,



scheduling services, communicating with the 9 to 5 Pets team, and making payments with a credit card or Paypal. And they receive peace of mind (along with a few smiles and laughs) from the notes and pictures sent after each visit, along with GPS and time tracking data so they can always rest assured that sitters are there and caring for their pets. Time spent with our clients' pets is pure joy and it's wonderful to see how technology has allowed that JOY to shine through to our clients. It truly makes it a "win-win!"

How valuable is the human bond with furry friends?

The bond we share with our pets is special; and through their love and constant companionship we get to experience what it truly feels like to be unconditionally loved. That's a gift. So, it makes me smile to see more and more people opening their hearts and homes to furry companions; because there are so many animals in need of loving homes, and we are all deserving of this special kind of love. Pets DO enrich our lives and there is no doubt in

my mind that every household could benefit from their companionship.

How does volunteering enrich your life?

When we volunteer we say "yes" to serving a need greater than ourselves, which I believe is an important and humbling practice. Volunteering has given me the gift of perspective and reminds me that we all face different challenges and we all hold different strengths. And when we take the time to offer up our strengths in order to help someone who is in need, we create more space in their world and in ours for happiness, joy and gratitude to set in and thrive.

What is your favorite part about living in Ponte Vedra Beach?

The natural beauty, wildlife, and peaceful community of Ponte Vedra Beach is what we love the most and what drew us in 15 years ago.

Edited by Christine Rodenbaugh

Local eatery switches to biodegradable packaging



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

By Daniela Toporek

In an effort to go green and uphold the “Trasca way” of great service, the local eatery is undergoing a series of changes to provide a cleaner, more ecofriendly experience.

“There’s a lot of things we’ve changed,” said Karina Coryell, co-owner of Trasca & Co. Eatery. “We’ve taken Styrofoam out of the business and we’re slowly deleting the everyday use of plastics.”

Coryell said Trasca is no longer using plastic straws but will offer paper straws to those who ask. The eatery implemented strawless to-go lids for beverages using recyclable plastic.

Aluminum foil is replacing to-go boxes and

they’re using paper containers for hot to-go soups.

The most intriguing change is the addition of biodegradable to-go containers supplied by Tellus Products LLC located just outside Belle Glade, Florida, in partnership with Florida Crystals Corporation and Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida. The disposable tableware is made from renewable sugarcane fiber grown and harvested in South Florida.

“After they milk the sugarcane, they use the pulp and make a biodegradable product so they’re not wasting anything,” Coryell said.

Trasca & Co. may not be 100% green and biodegradable yet, but with its efforts to help keep both its menu and beaches clean, it sure is on its way.

Beaches solar co-op gains support and sponsorship

Small businesses and homeowners in Jacksonville and Neptune Beach formed a solar co-op to help pave the way for solar-power installations while saving money and building a network of solar supporters.

The co-op will work with Solar United Neighbors, solar experts that expand access to solar power by educating residents about the benefits of distributed solar energy, organizing group solar installations and strengthening Florida solar policies and its community of solar supporters. Solar United Neighbors supports solar co-ops across the country and are a part of the organization’s mission to create a new energy system with rooftop solar power.

“Our team is excited to work with beaches businesses and residents to educate them about the benefits of solar energy,” said Angela DeMonbreun, Solar United Neighbors of Florida director. “If you’ve ever thought about going solar before, this is the perfect opportunity to do so.”

Co-op participants will select a single company to complete all the installations. They will then have the option to purchase panels individually, based on the installer’s group rate. By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, participants can save on the cost of going solar and have the support of fellow group participants and solar experts.

One of the co-op’s new sponsors is the North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce, a regional networking organization for businesses and community organizations, including non-profits, that emphasize green and sustainable business practices.

“We’re forming this co-op to make it as simple as possible for business owners to benefit from the economic and environmental benefits of going solar,” said Christina Kelcourse, Executive Director of NFGCC. “Working with the group helps participants learn about the technology so they feel confident in their decision to go solar.”



Photo courtesy of North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce

By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, participants can save money and have the support of fellow group participants and solar experts.

To inform residents and participants, the North Florida chapter plans ongoing networking and educational events, job fairs and a mentoring program on going solar. It also promotes the economic success of its members that partake in environmental, socially responsible and sustainable practices.

The solar co-op is free to join and is not a commitment to purchase panels. Jacksonville Beach and Neptune Beach small

businesses and homeowners interested in joining the co-op can sign up at solaruniteneighbors.org/beachesbusiness.

To learn more about the organization and its work or to become a member, visit www.solaruniteneighbors.org/beachesbusiness.

To learn more about the North Florida Green Chamber Commerce, visit www.northfloridagreenchamber.org or email contact@northfloridagreenchamber.org.

Guana Lake

Continued from 5

The pain reliever would also be present in human waste if the source was from raw sewage, which she was able to rule out. Acetaminophen is removed by the wastewater treatment process. In addition, she said there were very few septic systems still being used by residents in the area.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are the main components of eutrophication, which is the excessive richness of nutrients in a body of water that causes algae blooms. The chemicals are both found in human waste which exist in wastewater treatment facility effluent, re-use water, leaky

septic systems and fertilizer runoff. As for specifically where these sources originating, Dix is unsure.

“The lake is showing signs of stress,” Dix said. “There are high levels of nitrogen and high algae levels. We don’t quite understand where the sources are coming from, but the data indicates that human wastewater might be one source. Fertilizers are another potential source of nutrients.”

Dix said that while the levels have turned up high, particularly highest near the dam, there are still further studies to be done and it’s not a cause for major alarm. For one, the levels of sucralose previously reported from News 4 Jax as being at “levels higher than any of Florida’s dirty wastewater treatment

facilities,” was falsely reported due to erroneous information.

In addition, in the two years the study was conducted, a comparison of the averages showed a decrease in harmful pollutants. Dix did note, however, that “things always go up and down year to year so for a real trend over time you need a lot more data.”

Also, it turns out that Ponte Vedra residents do truly love the GTM and are willing to fund studies to make sure it’s thriving. The two-year water quality study of the GTM wouldn’t have been possible without the “momentous community interest in the health of Guana Lake,” according to the report.

“The study that we’ve been doing in Guana river and Guana Lake was really

started by the public interest, the friends of the GTM reserve raised \$10,000 to get us jumped started and we were able to pay for laboratory analyst samples. After that we got more support from state agencies and we got grant money.” Which, she says, they wouldn’t have received without the initial donation.

In addition to donating to the Friends of the GTM Research Reserve, Dix said other ways residents can help improve the water quality of Guana Lake include planting Florida-friendly landscaping, cleaning up all pet waste and watering lawns less. The less water runoff from lawns means the less pollutants flow to the river that in turn feeds the lake.

To donate to the GTM Research reserve, go to gtmnerr.org/donate.



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GTM Research Reserve celebrates 20 years

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Staff, volunteers and friends of the GTM Research Reserve celebrated its 20th anniversary with a reception Aug. 16 at the Visitor Center in Ponte Vedra Beach. The official designation date of the GTM Research Reserve was Aug. 19, 1999.

Michael Shirley, Northeast Florida regional administrator, welcomed guests and thanked volunteers. On average, volunteers give a collective 10,000 each year to support the reserve.

Staff was on site to answer questions and to help visitors explore the estuary through virtual reality headsets. Brad and Esther Mahanes experienced the VR headsets firsthand.

“It’s really impressive,” Brad Mahanes said. “It’s a tremendous educational opportunity.”

He said the headsets would give students of all grade levels the chance to experience the estuary without having to travel to the site. And more people could “explore” the area without additional pressure on the environment.

Candace Killian, upland resource coordinator, fed American alligators in the new reptile exhibit that also includes several snakes. Later, professional storyteller Debra Weller entertained the crowd with a tale about a roseate spoonbill, stork, peli-



ABOVE: Michael Shirley, Northeast Florida regional administrator, welcomed guests and thanked volunteers at the GTM Research Reserve 20th anniversary celebration Aug. 16.



LEFT: Gary Couliette, accompanied by his wife Gwen, holds a commemorative tee shirt he purchased at the Aug. 16 celebration.

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

can and egret concerned about the water quality in the estuary. They sang and made noise to get the attention of town leaders and biologists who took notice and worked together to solve the problem.

Finally, the birthday cake decorated in shades of blue was cut and served to guests.

“Thanks to our volunteers, we’ll be here at least another 20 years,” Shirley said.

Visitor center hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday at 505 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. Admission and parking are free at the visitor center.

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ABOVE: K9s for Warriors CEO Rory Diamond and president Brett Simon cut the ribbon during a ceremony celebrating the newest additions to facilities on the nonprofit's campus in Ponte Vedra.

RIGHT: Diamond exits the private plane with one of the rescue dogs from Texas to be trained at the nonprofit's Camp K9 in Ponte Vedra.

Photos courtesy of K9s for Warriors



K9s For Warriors celebrates opening of new training center

Addition at Ponte Vedra campus also comes with veterinary wellness center

K9s For Warriors held a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony for the new additions to its Ponte Vedra headquarters on Aug. 14. Now open are a canine training center, wellness center and vet tech center.

While K9s For Warriors has always trained its service dogs on the campus, the new training center opens up space to increase training capability. The wellness center and vet tech center provide well-equipped resources and a larger area for K9s For Warriors' two veterinary technicians to perform their work of ensuring canine health and well-being.

K9s' CEO Rory Diamond said these facilities are all meant to improve the training of the service dogs that will be paired with veterans at risk of suicide.

"K9s For Warriors is dedicating our new training center, our new wellness center and our new vet tech center so we can take care of our dogs even better and help even more warriors and lower that veteran suicide number," he said in a speech at the event.

All three facilities are now operational. The training center is occasionally featured on K9s For Warriors' Facebook and

Explore.org live stream on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m.

"This training center gives us the ability to give our dogs more foundational training in a better environment, and to be out of the Florida heat," K9s for Warriors president Brett Simon said.

Two rescue dogs to fly by private jet from Texas to Florida for training

K9s for Warriors recently brought its first rescue dogs from Texas to its North-east Florida headquarters for service dog training.

The dogs were procured by efforts of its new staff members in San Antonio, marking a milestone in the organization's expansion. The dogs flew by plane to the St. Augustine Regional Airport thanks to a generous billionaire donating his jet for the transportation.

In 2020, a new kennel will open in San Antonio to procure Texas shelter dogs for service dog training to ultimately serve post-9/11 veterans and servicemembers.

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Local 'stars' vie for Mirror Ball trophy

Beaches Fine Arts kicks off 6th annual First Coast Dancing with the Stars

With a line-up of local celebrities from throughout Northeast Florida, Beaches Fine Arts recently announced the First Coast Dancing with the Stars will take place at WJCT Studios on Saturday, Sept. 14. A few tickets are still available for the gala, which features the Best of Jax restaurants including Bistro Aix, Moxie, Matthews, Seasons 52, Fogo de Chao, True Foods, and Bleu Chocolat. VIP and Preferred ticket holders will have access to an open bar for the evening and buffet selections by Orsay at the VIP Party. Tickets are available at www.firstcoastdwts.org/tickets.

This fundraiser supports the free concerts and educational outreach programs of Beaches Fine Arts Series. The 12 Stars will raise funds for BFAS through gala seat sales as well as "votes," which can be purchased online in \$5 increments. To support for a favorite star, visit www.firstcoastdwts.org.

Some of the stars are presenting mini-fundraisers to support their campaigns to win the Mirror Ball trophy. Three stars will conduct events at the beaches.

On Aug. 25, Amy West will host a wonderful event, "The White Party," presented by The Hive Society and the Chris Thomas Band, at Casa Marina. All proceeds will go to BFAS, and to Amy's campaign to win the Mirror Ball trophy. Tickets are available at www.thehivesociety.com.

On Aug. 31, Teri Secrest will host a fundraiser with live music, drinks, dinner and a great auction of clothing and jewelry, not to mention the chance to win five nights at an oceanfront villa. For information, visit bit.ly/Secrest19. For tickets, visit <http://bit.ly/Secrest19tickets>.

On Sept. 7, Alexei Romanenko will perform in concert fundraiser at the OCA Studio in Ponte Vedra. Tickets are available for



Photo courtesy of Beaches Fine Arts

Terri Secrest will partner with Allan Alday of Dance Alday for the sixth annual First Coast Dancing with the Stars.

\$30 at Beachesfinearts.org/OCA and include champagne, a silent auction and raffle.

Residents are invited to support a free concert or educational outreach series to benefit the local community.

OBITUARIES

Ana Mercedes Lynton

Ana Mercedes Lynton passed away peacefully in her home on August 13, 2019.

Ana was born in the Republic of Panama on December 28, 1944 to Martin Vega and Maria del Carmen. She was a long-time resident of Atlantic Beach



Ana Mercedes Lynton

and was preceded in death by her husband Donald Joe Moses who was a decorated Veteran of the United States Navy. Ana was a long-time member of American Legion post 316. Before retiring, she worked at the Spa at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and enjoyed her work.

Ana was passionate about gardening and proudly displayed her rose garden. She had a love for Boston Terriers and leaves behind her beloved companion Suzie. Ana never met a stranger and loved sitting on her front porch and making new friends as they passed by. She leaves behind many dear friends and great neighbors. She loved listening to classic country music and dancing to salsa, merengue and music from her native country of Panama.

Ana is survived by her daughter, Heidi Aldridge from Houston, Texas; son, Kester Lynton and his wife Shannon from Jacksonville, Florida; and granddaughters, Aundrea, Hannah and Stella.

Visitation was from 6 to 8 p.m., Monday, August 19th in Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m., Tuesday, August 20th in St. Johns Catholic Church, 2400 Mayport Rd., Atlantic Beach, FL 32233.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ana's name to the Jacksonville Humane Society, 8464 Beach Blvd., Jax. FL 32216. Please visit the online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



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Thomas Leon Beaver

Thomas Leon Beaver, 60, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died Aug. 14, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Helen Roberts Williamson

Helen Roberts Williamson, 92, of Atlantic Beach, Florida died Aug. 13, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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St. Johns Town Center hosts Movie Under the Stars Aug. 24

St. Johns Town Center invites area residents and visitors to the fifth annual Movie Under the Stars event at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24. The ultimate way to stretch entertainment dollars just in time for back to school, families with children of all ages can enjoy a moonlit screening of "Dumbo," with all the donations collected at the event benefitting



Wolfson Children's Hospital.

During the day, St. Johns Town Center shoppers can enjoy special offers and events at participating retailers. Family activities will begin at 7:30 p.m., as well as face painting and special character appearances before the feature film at 8:05 p.m. Cantina Laredo will provide tastings from their menu. Remember to bring a blanket and chair.

The address is 4663 River City Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32246 (behind Coach).

Call the management office at (904) 998-7507 or visit www.simon.com/st-johns-town-center for more information.

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Nocatee Girl Scouts help at 'Back to School Bash'



ABOVE: Volunteer Bill Whitson and Fostering Connections St. Johns Board Member Jen Lee distribute books donated by Fostering Hope at Fruit Cove Baptist Church and gift cards for the children to buy clothing or shoes for school.

RIGHT: Volunteers Alina Rossi and Angela Rossi give out school supply packs donated by Chicken Salad Chick in St. Augustine.

Photos courtesy of Fostering Connections



Event supports foster families, foster children returning to school

Fostering Connections St. Johns, a local nonprofit supporting children in foster care and foster families, hosted a Back to School Bash for foster families Saturday, Aug. 10 at the St. Johns County Ocean Pier Pavilion in St. Augustine Beach. Girl Scout Troop 2099, based in Nocatee, collected and distributed 72 backpacks full of school supplies to children in foster care at the event.

More than 50 children and foster parents were in attendance. The event, sponsored by St. Augustine Behavioral Health LLC and The Consulting Firm LLC, included a variety of activities for both children and families sponsored by churches and nonprofit organizations from around St. Johns County. The event was staffed by more than 20 community volunteers.

Families were treated to lunch provided by The Tide's Oyster Co. & Grill. Activities included games, cookie decorating sponsored by Journey of Faith Christian Church, crafts sponsored by Fostering Hope at Fruit Cove Baptist Church, face painting by Shiloh Pelchat and a visit from The Swash-bucklers pirate group.

Children received new books compliments of Fostering Hope at Fruit Cove Baptist Church and \$25 gift cards for back-to-school clothes shopping and backpacks and school supplies provided by the Girl

Scouts of Gateway Council Troop 2099. Chicken Salad Chick of St. Augustine donated lunch boxes and school supplies.

"The Back to School Bash was a great time for foster families to celebrate the beginning of the school year," Aubrie Simpson-Gotham, founder and president of Fostering Connections St. Johns said. "The community from all around St. Johns County, has been so supportive, and our board members greatly appreciate the local churches, nonprofit organizations, businesses and volunteers who contributed and helped make this event a great success. Fostering Connections St. Johns looks forward to hosting this event for many years to come and continuing to expand our reach in the community helping local foster families."

Fostering Connections St. Johns provides support to children in foster care through fundraising, volunteerism, and advocacy. Current services include providing care packages to children entering foster care, a Backpack Brigade Closet that delivers clothing, shoes, toys and household items to foster families at no cost, and outreach events for foster families.

For more information, visit www.fosteringconnectionsstjohns.org or www.facebook.com/fosteringconnectionsstjohns.

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Thursday, Aug. 22	Friday, Aug. 23	Saturday, Aug. 24	Sunday, Aug. 25
<p>Journey Around the Spa Visit The Spa at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club at 4:30 p.m., Aug. 22, for its fourth annual vendor event with an exclusive passport. Step into treatment rooms, where vendors will offer something special to the incoming "travelers." Get the passport punched at every vendor and be entered to win a Spa Gift Basket worth over \$1,000. This event will feature exclusive package offerings and the discounted prices. There will also be complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres. Participating vendors include Alastin, Obagi, Clarisonic, SkinMedica, Jane Iredale, Dr. Dennis Gross and more. Call the Spa at (904) 273-7700 to make a reservation. A \$50 deposit holds a spot for this event. The Spa at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club is located at 302 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Singer and Songwriter showcase Join the second annual Singer and Songwriter Showcase to support the Beaches Council on Aging and Beaches Dial-a-Ride at 6 p.m., Aug. 22. Spend an evening at Tamaya's Forum Theater and enjoy listening to the music of talented singer/songwriters. Tickets start at \$75. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.beachescoa.com/events. The Forum Theater is located at 3270 Tamaya Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Miami Dolphins watch party at 8103 Clothing Inc. Join 8103 Clothing Inc., along with The Block Skate Supply and Generation Jaguar for a Jags vs. Dolphins watch party from 8 to 11 p.m., Aug. 22. 8103 Clothing will be showing the game on a massive 12-foot projector screen outside in the skate plaza, along with flatscreens inside both stores. There will be free drinks provided by Bold City Brewery and Relevnt. The Blazn Buffalo will be serving up snacks for hungry fans and Pop-ups from Gen. Jag and Teal We Die will be open for business. 8103 Clothing Inc. is located at 1715 N. Main St. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Wine and Water Color Local master artist, Ellen Diamond, will guide participants how to sketch with watercolors at 6 p.m., Aug. 23, at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Artists of all skill levels will learn how to choose a subject, layout the scene and bring the subject to life with color. This class is \$55 and open to every skill level. To register, visit the page "Wine and Watercolor with Ellen Diamond" on www.EventBrite.com and look for the eTapestry link in the description. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Nikki Glaser at The Comedy Zone Join "Trainwreck" star and comedien, Nikki Glaser at 6:30 p.m., Aug. 23, at The Comedy Zone, for a night of drinks and laughs. Glaser has been featured on Comedy Central's @midnight with Chris Hardwick, Inside Amy Schumer, The Roast of Rob Lowe and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. For tickets, www.comedyzone.com/event/nikki-glaser. The Comedy Zone is located at 3130 Hartley Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Walk-in deli interviews at Publix at Sawgrass Working in the deli means getting behind-the-scenes access to Publix's famous chicken tenders and "pub subs." Publix at Sawgrass Village is looking for new team members for its deli department and are doing walk-in interviews on Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. Apply online at http://bit.ly/2Z3Dlpx and stop by for an interview. Visit www.publix.jobs for more information. Publix at Sawgrass Village is located at 220 Front Street, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Not in Your Backyard Ever wonder how to identify and remove the plants that are "bad" for the yard and the environment? Join Park Naturalist, Kelly Ussia, from 10 to 11 a.m., Aug. 23 at the GTM Research Reserve and learn about invasive plant species within Northeast Florida. This program is free, but RSVP is required. To RSVP or for more information, email Kelly Ussia at kussia@sjcfl.us or call (904) 209-0335. The GTM Research Reserve is located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Beaches Museum gallery tour: Annelies Dykgraaf The Beaches Museum will host a gallery tour of the art exhibit, "Water. Life. Art.," by artist, Annelies Dykgraaf, at 11 a.m., Aug. 24. The tour will be an intimate opportunity to immerse in Dykgraaf's work as the artist herself discusses her technique and inspiration. Dykgraaf's acrylic paintings and relief prints are inspired by the connections of the people, symbols, textile patterns, and mythological motifs of her birth land of Nigeria, West Africa and her homeland of Jacksonville. The event is free to museum members, with a suggested \$5 donation from nonmembers. For more information, call (904) 241-5657 or visit www.beachesmuseum.org. The Beaches Museum is located at 381 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Holistic Living and Healing expo Join Jacksonville Business Connections for its Holistic Living and Healing expo, featuring over 40 vendors 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Aug. 24, at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort. The expo is free to the public and all are welcome. The first 50 guests will receive free swag bags and bragging rights. Visit and get free 15-minute spiritual readings on a first come, first-served basis. For more information, visit the Eventbrite event page called, "Holistic Living & Healing Expo." The World Golf Village Resort is located at 500 S. Legacy Trl. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>BEAM of Light Beach Ball 2019 The local nonprofit, Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry, will be hosting its annual "Beam of Light Beach Ball" from 7 to 11 p.m., Aug. 24 at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse. Funds raised will go to the foundation to support those in need in the beaches community. The evening will include an open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live music by RadioLove Band and auctions. Tickets are available for \$150 each. Young professionals (35 years old and younger) can purchase tickets for \$100. Cocktail attire suggested. This year's theme will be Pucci, resort clothing with bright colors and bold and abstract designs. For more information, email Gracie@jaxbeam.org or call (904) 241-7437 ext. 2. The TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse is located at 110 Championship Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Sundays at Surfer the Bar On Sundays, 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 Beach.</p> <p>Sing with the summer choir at Palms Presbyterian Church Join the Palms Prebsbyterian Church on Sundays in August to sing in the summer choir. No auditions are necessary, just show up for rehearsal at 10 a.m. in room 121 and prepare to sing at the 11 a.m. service. For more information, call Dr. Ronn Cummings at (904) 246-6427 x 122 or email ronn.cummings@palmschurch.org. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>First Coast Newcomers Adult Recreation Club game day The First Coast Newcomers Adult Recreation Club will host its game day at 2:30 p.m., Aug. 25, at a coffee shop off A1A South in St. Augustine. The event is free to attend with walk-ins and guests welcome. Contact the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to RSVP, for the coffee shop name and address or for more information.</p> <p>Vampire Weekend at The AMP Vampire Weekend's "Father of the Bride Tour" will feature the band's biggest headline shows to date, including Madison Square Garden, the Hollywood Bowl, festival headlines, and their 7 p.m., Aug. 25 appearance at The Amp. Vampire Weekend released the songs "Harmony Hall" and "2021" from their upcoming fourth album, "Father of the Bride," which received accolades from Billboard Magazine, who wrote that the album "sprawls out with lush symphonies, communal vibes aplenty." For tickets, visit www.staugamphitheatre.com. The AMP is located at 1340C A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p>

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Monday, Aug. 26	Tuesday, Aug. 27	Wednesday, Aug. 28	Thursday, Aug. 29
<p>Ask the Expert: The inside scoop on hurricanes At noon join meteorologist, Garrett Bedenbaugh, with Action News Jax, Aug. 26 at the Ponte Vedra YMCA to discuss how the First Alert Weather Team forecasts storms and the important supplies to prepare for natural disasters. This event is free and open to the community. For more information, call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/hlc. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>Live For Today's Summer happy hour fundraiser Join the Brunch Haus from 5:30 to 8 p.m., Aug. 26, for a Summer happy hour Fundraiser to support the Live for Today Foundation and the young adult local cancer community. There will be snacks, beer and wine and a signature cocktail. The event will feature a silent auction, wine pull and live music. Tickets are \$15 and are sold on www.Eventbrite.com. Search for the title, "Summer Happy Hour Fundraiser" by Live for Today Foundation, Inc. Brunch Haus is located at 610 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Bar Summer Slam '19 Everyone is invited to come out at 2 p.m., Aug. 26, and watch bartenders go head to head in a four-on-four beach volleyball tournament on the beach in front of Casa Marina. Marlin and Barrel Distillery will have all its products in summer cocktails along with local beers, White Claw and Redbull. Proceeds from the drinks and raffle will benefit the Jacksonville Beach Volunteer Lifesaving Corp. There will be 14 teams of four participants (at least one female per team) from bars all across NE FL. The first 14 to register and meet the requirements will be given spots. Teams must have a captain. All teams must be at the sign-in at 1:30 p.m. Register via email at Abbas@marlinbarrel.com. Casa Marina Hotel & Restaurant is located at 691 First St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>'Mamma Mia!' at The Alhambra The Alhambra Theatre & Dining is now showing the production, "Mamma Mia!," at 6 p.m., Aug. 27. This musical celebrates the theme of friendship and love inspired by ABBA's greatest hits. A daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. Tickets are \$56. The production will play at the Alhambra until Sept. 15. For more information, call (904) 641-1212. The Alhambra Theatre & Dining is located at 12000 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Social Security workshop at Ponte Vedra Beach Library This educational workshop hosted at 6 p.m., Aug. 27 will provide information to help understand how Social Security works. Class attendees will be able to make informed decisions about Social Security and understand how the elections people make will affect monthly benefits. Topics include knowing the history of Social Security, maximization of Social Security, being aware of issues involving the solvency of Social Security, estimate your benefits and much more. There is no cost to attend. The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Stroke support group The stroke support group at the Y Healthy Living Center in Mandarin is open to stroke survivors, caregivers and anyone wanting to learn about strokes. The group joins from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Aug. 27, and helps relearn skills lost when affected by a stroke. There is no cost to attend and membership is not required. The Y Healthy Living Center Mandarin is located at 10415 San Jose Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Coffee and crafts To celebrate the "back to school" season, Creative Grain Studio will offer coffee and Panera bagels at 9 a.m., Aug. 27. Guests will be able to make mini-signs for \$30. Any young crafters wanting to join? Children are welcome and can create some art of their own for \$20. Use the code, #FOJ, for 10 percent off. Creative Grain Studio is located at 1814 Hendricks Ave. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Wednesday Pier Farmers Market On Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon, the Pier Farmers Market at the St. Johns County Pier offers fresh fruit, vegetables, bread and local arts and crafts, ranging from 60 to 80 different vendors. Visitors can find a variety of unique, quality goods from local businesses. After browsing, visitors can take a stroll along scenic St. Augustine Beach. The market helps the local economy by allowing local merchants to sustain their business and also offer fresh, local foods to the community. For more information, call (904) 315-0952. The St. Johns County Pier Park at the St. Johns County Ocean Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p>TEDxJacksonville Idea Club: Revitalization TEDxJacksonville's Idea Club provides an intimate forum for promoting awareness and knowledge of subjects that matter in the community. The Idea Club hosts informal viewing parties of pre-selected TED talks with a common theme at various locations around Jacksonville. Afterward, guests break into small discussion groups that foster curiosity, open conversation and diverse viewpoints, all with the aim of finding solutions to common problems together. The fourth Idea Club will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., Aug. 28, at In The Word International Church. For this meeting, the main idea is discussing ways to revitalize the city's multiple communities, both socially and economically. Join and learn about life, people and positive change. In The Word International Church is located at 925 Spearing St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Green Chile Fest at Lucky's Market To celebrate the spicier things in life and peak green chile season, Lucky's Market is bringing back its Green Chile Fest from Aug. 28 through Sept. 4 at all local stores. Florida locals will have the chance to get another taste of the famous and authentic roasted New Mexico Hatch Green Chiles. Lucky's Market is located at 580 Atlantic Blvd. in Neptune Beach,</p>	<p>MOTH presents Makerspace Movies: 'The Clean Bin Project' Movies On The House (MOTH) screens films that help contribute to the important cultural discussions around the art, artists, and ideas of our time. This summer, the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville teams up with the Jacksonville Public Library to offer MOTH presents Makerspace Movies. Join for an evening of inspiring film and engaging discussion from 7 to 9 p.m., Aug. 29. This event's feature film is "The Clean Bin Project." When couple, Jen and Grant, put themselves to the test to produce as little garbage as possible in a calendar year, they find themselves in a competition that takes humorous aim at the culture of throwing everything away. All screenings are free and open to the public. The MOCA Jacksonville is located at 333 N. Laura St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Atlanta Falcons at TIAA Bank Field Join the Jacksonville Jaguars and watch the local team go up against the 2016 season Super Bowl contenders, the Atlanta Falcons. The game starts at 7 p.m., Aug. 29 at TIAA Bank Field. For tickets, visit www.jaguars.com/tickets. TIAA Bank Field is located at 1 TIAA Bank Field Dr. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza Grab a blanket, chair, friends and family and head downtown to the Plaza de la Constitución for the final show of the season of Concerts in the Plaza. The final band is folk, blugrass, jugband, Lonesome Bert & The Skinny Lizards. The concert starts at 7 p.m., Aug. 29. Arrive early to get a good spot. Don't forget some dancing shoes. Picnics are welcome. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. The Plaza de la Constitución is located at 170 Saint George St. in St. Augustine.</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 Daniela@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Cypress Village celebrates 229th birthday of U.S. Coast Guard

Aug. 4 marked the 229th birthday of the United States Coast Guard and was celebrated by residents and staff at Cypress Village.

Egret Hall was filled with Coast Guard veterans, friends and family as the community honored the patriotism of those men and women who answered the call to serve their country. Resident Tom Sharrit was joined by his family as they shared stories of his honor flight last year to Washington, D.C. Residents Don Manahan and Al Hudak contributed memories from their time in the service. The event was complemented by a “Best of Service” presentation featuring highlights of the Coast Guard’s accomplishments throughout the years.

The U.S. Coast Guard was originally established as the “Revenue Marine” in 1790 and is the oldest continuous seafaring service of the U.S. Military. They have played a part of every American conflict from 1790 to today, including World War I and II, Iraq and Afghanistan. Today they often serve as first responders to national



Cypress Village resident Tom Sharrit celebrates the 229th birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard with a visit from family.

tragedies like Hurricane Katrina in 2004 and continually patrol U.S. borders to battle drug smugglers and maintain the safety of the nation’s borders.

Cypress Village is home to more than 150 veterans from several branches of military service, and hosts celebrations to honor those who served.

On Sept. 18, Cypress Village will celebrate the 72nd birthday of the U.S. Air Force.

Cypress Village is a Retirement Care Community located adjacent to the Mayo Clinic. Cypress Village homes and apartments on a 120-acre campus. For more information, call (904) 223-6100.



Don Manahan recalled his service in the U.S. Coast Guard at the Cypress Village celebration of the branch’s 229th birthday.



Coast Guard veteran Al Hudak lives at Cypress Village.

Photos courtesy of Cypress Village



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Myths and facts about kids' eye care



Kelly Unkrich, M.D.
Nemours pediatric ophthalmologist

Seeing is an important part of learning across a vast range of areas, from speaking and math to spelling and writing. But there are many myths about kids' eye health. As students head back to school, we asked Nemours pediatric ophthalmologist Kelly Unkrich, M.D., to give us the lowdown on kids' vision facts and fiction.

Myth: Sitting too close to the TV is bad for the eyes.

Fact: Although parents have been saying this ever since TVs first found their way into our homes, there's no evidence that plunking down right in front of the TV set damages one's eyes. The American Academy of Ophthalmology says that kids can actually focus up close without eyestrain better than adults, so they often develop the habit of sitting right in front of the television or holding reading material close to their eyes. However, sitting close to a TV may be a sign of nearsightedness.

Myth: Computer use can damage the eyes.

Fact: According to the AAO, computer use won't harm the eyes. However, when using a computer for long periods of time, the eyes blink less than normal (like they do when reading or performing other close work). This makes the eyes dry, which may lead to a feeling of eyestrain or fatigue. So encourage your kids to take frequent breaks from internet surfing or video games.

Myth: If you cross your eyes, they'll stay that way.

Fact: Contrary to the old saying, eyes will not stay that way if you cross them. If your child is crossing one eye constantly, schedule an evaluation by a pediatric ophthalmologist.

Myth: If parents have poor eyesight, their kids will inherit that trait.

Fact: Unfortunately, this one is sometimes true. If you need glasses for good vision or have developed an eye condition (such as cataracts), your kids might inherit that same trait. Discuss your family's visual history with your doctor.

Myth: Eating carrots can improve vision.

Fact: Although it's true that carrots are rich in vitamin A, which is essential for sight, so are many other foods (asparagus, apricots, nectarines and milk, for example). A well-balanced diet can provide the vitamin A needed for good vision, says the AAO.

Myth: Two blue-eyed parents can't produce a child with brown eyes.

Fact: Two blue-eyed parents can have a child with brown eyes, although it's very rare. Likewise, two brown-eyed parents can have a child with blue eyes, although this is also uncommon.

Myth: Only boys can be colorblind.

Fact: It's estimated that up to 8% of boys have some degree of color blindness, whereas less than 1% of girls do.

Myth: The eye is full size at birth.

Fact: The eye is NOT full size at birth but continues to



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

grow with your child. This growth partially accounts for refractive (glasses) changes that occur during childhood.

Myth: Wearing glasses too much will make the eyes "dependent" on them.

Fact: Refractive errors (near-sightedness, far-sightedness, or astigmatism) change as kids get older. Many variables come into play, but most of this change is likely due to genetics and continues despite wearing glasses earlier or later or more or less.

FREE SCREENINGS FOR KIDS

Stop by the Nemours booth at the Nocatee Farmers Market between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17 for free children's color and depth perception screenings provided by Nemours Pediatric Ophthalmology, as well as interactive games for kids and parents. To learn more about Nemours kids' eye services, visit bit.ly/KidsEyeExperts.



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LOCAL LUXURY LISTINGS Pages 16-19

What does a real estate agent do all day anyway?



Cara Ameer
Guest Columnist

A real estate agent's job is to make sure everyone else involved in the transaction is doing their job. Agents have to continually shift gears to quickly adapt and respond to customer needs.

What does a real estate agent do? Oh, where to start. Trying to explain to the public how real estate agents spend their time is akin to explaining what a doctor or lawyer does all day. There's a lot more that goes into "treating patients" or "handling legal matters" and the same goes for "helping people buy, sell or rent property."

From a consumer's first thought about making a real estate move to actually taking the leap — whether that means right now, next month or three years from now

— the agent is incubator, initiator, action-taker, coordinator, scheduler, personal concierge, resource person, problem-solver, mediator, miracle worker, red-tape cutter, transaction manager and chief make-it-happen officer of everything else that doesn't fall into the prior categories.

They may delegate some of these roles, but nothing gets completed without their oversight and input into what needs to be done and how.

An agent has a workday like anyone else, but there are typically little to no boundaries to that agent's day and week. Here's how an agent's workday often goes:

RESPONDING

There are no official days off in real estate. There might be spans without any scheduled appointments, but there are always inquiries, emails and texts to respond to.

Agents are "on" no matter where they

are. In our instant-response society, there really is no waiting until tomorrow.

If a consumer contacts them about a property, they respond. If other agents contact them to ask questions about their listing or want to show one of their properties, they get back to them. If they receive an offer, they work on it regardless of the day, place and time. There is no stop-and-start in this business.

Despite what people might say, it is nearly impossible to shut off the communication, ever. The workplace is anywhere an agent is and that doesn't mean agents have to go to an office for the day to start — work happens at home, in the car, during vacations and on the go.

The job often begins early in the morning or the night before managing emails and follow-up communications — phone calls and texts about any number of things from showing feedback on listings, following-up on in-progress transactions and creating to-do lists for assistants and staff.

databases with new customer information, updates to existing customer contact information, birthdays and new-home anniversaries, and more.

SCHEDULING SHOWINGS

Agents put together property itineraries for clients who are planning a house hunting trip, which could involve numerous showings in a short period of time.

Scheduling these tours requires a delicate dance that takes into consideration geography and logistics against the backdrop of unknown time constraints that sellers may impose. Some common requests are, "Can you come at 2 p.m. instead of 10 a.m.?" or "Today's not good, but how about Friday?"

These impromptu changes in plans wouldn't be a problem if agents didn't have anything else to do, buyers had the luxury of time and they were local — but rarely are agents working with that kind of flexibility.

And Murphy's Law says the property that's causing the scheduling difficulties will be the one at the top of buyers' wish list. Agents have to find a way to make it happen.

MAKING CONTACT

Agents reach out to establish initial contact, discuss real estate needs and provide advice on the market to customers who have just been referred to them.

REVIEWING MLS ACTIVITY

Agents review Multiple Listing Service activity for any pertinent listings and updates on properties of interest to their buyers and sellers and notify their clients of relevant information. That includes competitive listings, price changes, under contracts, back on the markets, off the markets or solds and more.

KEEPING UP A DATABASE

Agents must continually update contact

AMEER continues on Page 18



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Sun shines on open house luau in Ponte Vedra



ABOVE: Marcelle D'Ornellas Nuccio, John Disebastian, Joanne Disebastian, Michelle Floyd and Neil Smith pose in the foyer of 1217 Ponte Vedra Boulevard during the Aug. 17 open house.

RIGHT: Jane Chefan, Jeff Chefan, Hazel Cooksey and Kathie Gibbs dressed for the luau.

Photos courtesy of Melissa Roby



By Michelle Floyd
Special to the Recorder

It may have been a rainy afternoon Aug. 17 in Northeast Florida but at 1217 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, the Hawaiian sun was shining bright at an open house luau presented by Michelle and Jack Floyd of First Coast Sotheby's International Realty. Buyers and agents were met at the 10-foot mahogany doors of this beautiful home by Hawaiian dancers greeting each visitor with lei and the spirit of Aloha.

This five-bedroom, six-bath home with almost 9,000 square feet of indoor living space includes a large theater room with reclining seating, butler's kitchen, Manhattan chandelier, two-story fireplace and so many more incredible amenities.

Outdoors, guests enjoyed the taste of Hawaii with delectable appetizers such as kalua pork and sushi with an authentic hula show performed by Hālau Ho Omau Ana i Ka Nohona Hawai'i. They took guests on a tour of the Islands from the Big Island of Hawaii, to New Zealand, and rounding off the trip to Tahiti adorned in authentic costumes made by the dancers. The dancers performed on the expansive outdoor entertain-



Kamea and Kalia Smith hand out leis to open house visitors.

ment area overlooking the infinity pool with breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean. This home boast room to hold any social gathering with infinite options for entertainment indoors and out.

Qualified buyers may tour the home by calling Michelle Floyd at (904) 343-5067 or Jack Floyd at (904) 343-5196.

Stunning Low-Country Waterfront in Ponte Vedra Beach

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Fish from the dock or take the boat out for a cruise right from your own backyard! Designed by Mark Macco Architects and built by Collier Classic Homes in 2006, this beautiful home is a great way to live life on the ICW. Perfect for entertaining with its open, flowing floorplan, you will appreciate the architectural details throughout and the hot tub on the back patio. Additional features include:

- First-floor Master BR with 2 guest rooms upstairs
- Brazilian ironwood and travertine stone throughout
- Unique in-law/guest suite with elevator, ensuite bath, kitchen and balcony overlooking the ICW
- New bulkhead

View this listing at:
<https://nflrealestatephotography.com/129Roscoe>

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Continued from 16

They conduct in-depth research on possible options for buyers and dive into market comparables to get an idea of what sellers' homes can realistically sell for.

SETTING AND ATTENDING APPOINTMENTS

Then there are the appointments — meeting buyers and sellers for initial discussions, previewing and touring properties, meeting inspectors, appraisers and a plethora of specialists, contractors, stagers, photographers and repair professionals.

While out on these meetings, business carries on and the emails, calls and texts flood in.

Oftentimes agents will be juggling these meetings with the sellers from six months ago who call and want to meet immediately — or the inactive buyer couple who suddenly found the perfect home that they need to see right this minute.

NEGOTIATING OFFERS AND MANAGING THE SALE

Negotiating offers may go on for days or weeks. Once an offer gets worked out and a property goes under contract, that is just the beginning. There's no jumping up and down, high-fiving and laughing all the way to the bank. Quite the contrary, this is where it can all go wrong.

At this point, agents have to make sure that everyone involved in this process does his or her job. From whatever side of the transaction they represent — buyer or seller — agents need to make sure everyone is fulfilling their obligations of the transaction in a timely manner.

If a lender is involved, active and frequent communication is a must to ensure the loan process is on track.

Agents check in with the title company or attorney's office to make sure the file is being handled and all details and nuances are being attended to. They also address anything unexpected that may arise — a closing that needs to be a mail-away to the seller, or a situation in which a power of attorney needs to be present because one of the buyers will not be.

There are an endless number of tasks that agents must ensure get done from contract to close, from reminding clients about utility transfers to ensuring the seller has everything moved out on the day the buyer legally takes possession.

PROBLEM-SOLVING

Problem-solving and crisis management happens at every turn. This entails educating clients about the realities of what they are trying to accomplish; running down information about a community, association or property; or troubleshooting umpteen potential issues that could derail a property search, transaction or closing.

Unlike many jobs, no two days are the

same. One week could be plagued by multiple snags — a buyer's financing falls apart, home inspection issues, etc. — and on another day, it may all come together in an eerily smooth manner. But never fear; in this business, the other shoe is always about to drop.

Speaking of the other shoe dropping, there is no guarantee that the time spent and the hours put in will result in a paycheck.

Agents can't bill for the time and effort they've expended giving advice and information, showing properties, attending showings, creating and hosting broker and consumer open house events and more.

The buyer may never buy, the seller may never sell, and the agent's paycheck is affected by other people's circumstances and decisions.

The enthused buyer could have job transfer fall through. An unexpected medical situation could put a house hunt on hold for someone else. Or a couple of sellers could suddenly decide they love their house more than they did before.

The agent — if he or she is lucky in these cases — will get a "thank you."

MARKETING

Then there is the marketing and business development agents pour into their brand, knowledge and expertise. That website, newsletter, postcard, video or other marketing pieces — social media posts, custom property ads — didn't appear out of thin air.

Agents devote thought and resources to each marketing piece with an eye toward implementation, execution and tracking results at every turn.

In short, real estate is a profession full of follow-up, follow-up, follow-up; multi-tasking; prioritizing, re-prioritizing; juggling; figuring out how to be in three places at once; evaluating, advising and coaching; hand-holding; researching and problem-solving; and responding.

Despite what reality television portrays, agents don't simply ride around in expensive cars or have their private driver take them to unlock a door. They don't show up in designer clothes at some swanky place to negotiate a deal over trendy cocktails.

It might appear glamorous and easy, but showing a customer properties or putting a home on the market happens sometime in the middle of a very involved process.

Marketing, branding and creating top-of-mind presence usually comes first, and those are the things that motivate customers to choose an agent.

Agents are the catalyst for the entire process of buying, selling or renting a property; and, from that perspective, they help keep the economy moving in every sense of the word.

Cara Ameer is a broker associate and Realtor with Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. You can follow her on Facebook.com/caraameermedia, Twitter.com/caraameer or email her at cameer@cbvfl.com.

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The Collier by Providence Homes is a 100% Energy Star-certified model home in Markland on an over-sized lot with lake views and is now open to tour.

Photo courtesy of Providence Homes



Providence Homes opens new model in Markland

The Collier is a fully-furnished model home on lot 147

Just in time for the St. Johns Builders Council Parade of Homes from Aug. 31 to Sept. 15, builder Providence Homes has opened The Collier. Located in Markland at 305 Westcott Parkway, this spacious 3,735 square foot, five-bedroom, four-bath, single-story, fully furnished model home is ready for tours. The model is currently staffed Thursday through Sunday, but will be open daily after Aug. 31.

A leader in the design and construction of energy efficient homes, Providence Homes crafted the award-winning Collier to be a 100% Energy Star-certified model home that features dining room, study, family room, executive chef kitchen-cafe, bonus room with bath, three-car courtyard garage and covered patio on an over-sized lakefront home site.

“We have earned five consecutive Energy Star- Partner of the Year Awards by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy – more

than all of the other area builders combined,” Robert Goettlicher, vice-president of sales and marketing said. “All Providence Homes are 100% Energy Star-certified and built with a new innovative conditioned attic system using spray foam insulation. You may not find a more energy-efficient home in the area!”

Currently, Providence Homes will pay up to \$7,500 toward closing costs and pre-pays with the use of their preferred lenders. See on-site sales associates for details.

For more information, visit MyProvidenceHome.com. Tour the new model located in Markland at 305 Westcott Parkway, St. Augustine, Florida.

Located just one minute east of Interstate 95 on International Golf Parkway, Markland is an intimately scaled neighborhood featuring amenities of a larger community with homes priced from \$300,000 to more than \$800,000. Phase 2 homesites are now available. For more information, visit www.Markland.com.

Realtor earns certification to assist physicians with real estate needs

Kathleen Floryan with real estate firm eXp Realty has joined the exclusive network of real estate professionals around the country committed to assisting physicians with their residential real estate and relocation needs. With the DRS Agent designation, Floryan has differentiated herself from her peers in helping medical professionals.

Floryan is working to partner with local hospitals, medical practices and physician recruiters to attract physicians to the greater Jacksonville community through enhanced services.

“In addition to being a registered nurse, the DRS Agent training and resources have provided me with the knowledge and expertise in working with the unique needs and demands of physicians,” Floryan said.

With 38 years in nursing practice coupled with 13 years full time working in



Kathleen Floryan

residential real estate, Floryan is sensitive to the needs of physicians for quality family time and an environment that is conducive to their relaxation and stress reduction time.

“Physicians can be confident that Kathleen has the necessary market knowledge and special skills to serve their unique needs,” DRS Agent Executive Director Daniel Frank said. “Physicians have worked hard to learn their skills, and Kathleen Floryan provides the same diligence as a DRS Agent making her an excellent addition to our network.”

Call (904) 687-5146 or email kathleen.floryan@exp Realty.com for more information.

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Business Weekly

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Luxury pet resort
to open winter 2019
in Ponte Vedra

Page 23

V Pizza, Julep to open soon in Palm Valley

By Daniela Toporek

V Pizza will open a new location Aug. 31 in Palm Valley with the accompanying bar concept, Julep. Multiple publications including BuzzFeed and the Food Network have voted its other First Coast locations as having some of the best pizza and wings.

Located at 154 Canal Boulevard in Ponte Vedra, the new V Pizza location, like all others, will aim to serve “high-quality, authentic, Neapolitan-style pizza” using the hand-crafted Stefano Ferrara wood-fired oven.

V’s concept bar, Julep, aims to become the bar with the largest whiskey and bourbon selection in the Southeast, according to V Pizza Director of Operations, Dave Reynolds. Julep will also serve the countless cocktails already served at its sister bars, Sidecar, the Tap Garden and Flask & Cannon.

“This is going to be the crown jewel of our bar concept,” Reynolds said, enthused to share the news. “It’s paying homage to the area of Palm Valley. There are tons of horse farms here. When people think of horses, they think of the Kentucky Derby, they think of Julep.”

V Pizza plans to host a soft opening Aug. 28, on the new restaurant site. There will be free pizza slices and award-winning wings in exchange for a donation to local nonprofit, V for Victory, which aids struggling cancer patients and families around Jacksonville.

“This is our first location built from the ground up, so in our eyes, it’s perfect,” Reynolds said. “We put our blood, sweat and tears into this place and we’re really proud to bring it to Palm Valley.”

For more information, visit www.vpizza.com.



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

V Pizza’s new location in Palm Valley is expected to open Aug. 31, along with its accompanying concept bar, Julep.

Be alert for opportunities when preparing for college costs



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

Now that summer is winding down, and it’s “back-to-school” time. When children are young, logistics for the new academic year may involve little more than a trip to buy school supplies. But those who would like to send kids (or grandkids) to college

someday need to plan far ahead to meet the financial demands. And, as part of college planning, be on the lookout for all opportunities to help pay those sizable college bills.

Specifically, be ready to take action in some key areas.

FINANCIAL AID

Start thinking about financial aid at least a year before a child heads off to college. For example, begin submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid on Oct. 1 for the 2020-21 academic year. And if the past is any guide, remember that Oct. 1 date for the next school year. The FAFSA helps colleges and the U.S. Department of Education evaluate financial need and determine how much financial support your child requires. And since a lot of financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, it’s a good idea to submit forms as soon as possible once the application period opens.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Colleges and universities offer their own

scholarships, but applicants not limited to them. In fact, it might be surprising to learn the number and variety of college scholarships available to a child or grandchild – but to find them, some digging may be required. Find out what’s offered from foundations, religious, ethnic or community organizations, local businesses and civic groups. Also, ask the high school guidance office for information. An employer might even offer small scholarships. Find more information about scholarships on the U.S. Department of Education’s website.

COLLEGE-SPECIFIC INVESTMENTS

Consider an investment designed to

help save for college. Several options are available, each with different contribution limits, rules and tax treatments, so consult with a financial professional to choose an investment that’s appropriate for individual situations

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Not every bachelor’s degree needs to begin and end at an expensive four-year college or university. Many students now fulfill some of their “general” education requirements at affordable community colleges before transferring to a four-year school – often saving tens of thousands of dollars in the process.

JACOBSON continues on Page 25

Keynote speaker Eric Silagy, president of Florida Power & Light, speaks with St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce members at the quarterly Economic Development Council breakfast Aug. 16 at the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh



Ackerman appointed to Florida Board of Medicine

Dr. Scot Ackerman, medical director of Ackerman Cancer Center, has been appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to the Florida Board of Medicine.

The Florida Board of Medicine is the state agency tasked with regulating the practice of medicine state-wide. Its mission is to protect and enhance the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and maintaining standards of excellence used in regulating the practice of medicine in the state of Florida through licensure, discipline and education.

Dr. Ackerman is a board-certified radiation oncologist with more than 30 years of practicing in North Florida. Ackerman graduated from Tulane University with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and completed his residency at Columbia University Medical Center in New York. He held the position of Chief of Radiation Oncology at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida.

Having founded First Coast Oncology in 1997, Dr. Ackerman was a pioneer in patient-centered radiation oncology. In 2014, First Coast Oncology became Ackerman Cancer Center and the first private, physician-owned proton therapy center in the world.

Dr. Ackerman serves on the board of WeCareJax and is actively involved in the American Cancer Society having served as the president of the Florida Chapter. He is a strong believer in individualized patient care and has served as an integral force in Florida's fight against cancer through his patient advocacy and community awareness.

The appointment to the Florida Board of Medicine is for a four-year term and is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Chamber meeting focuses on energy

By Christine Rodenbaugh

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Isabelle Renault welcomed members and guests to the Aug. 16 Economic Development Council quarterly breakfast in Shell Hall at the World Golf Village.

The keynote speaker was Eric Silagy, president and CEO of Florida Power & Light. Silagy cited Florida's \$1 trillion economy and lack of state income tax as two driving forces that attract an average of 1,000 new residents to the state daily. Increased population increases the demand for energy.

To meet that demand, FPL has experienced a paradigm shift and is no longer the power company of yesteryear.

"We are a technology company that delivers energy," Silagy said.

FPL's dependence on oil to produce energy is almost nil. Instead, FPL continues to develop clean energy sources including solar, natural gas and nuclear energy products. Silagy said one option in the works is to install 40 acres of batteries to provide power, which removes



Christine Caven, Kristi Aiello and Ashley Szczukowski pose for a photo in the World Golf Hall of Fame after the Chamber's quarterly breakfast meeting.

emissions and requires no water, is efficient and enhances reliability.

"When it comes down to energy, it's a national security issue," Silagy said. He said FPL's focus is to help make the country energy independent.

FPL has invested \$4 billion in storm hardening.

"After Irma, power was back on to 50% of customers in 24 hours," he said. "This is about being predictive instead of reactive."

Jacksonville company provides defense freight transportation services

Crowley Solutions partners with small business carriers to support defense initiatives

Two years ago, Kevin Bissonnette, president of Biss Transport in Duncannon, Pennsylvania, was running a one tractor-trailer operation. Then in late 2017, he met the Crowley Solutions team and signed up to operate as a small business providing contract carrier services for Crowley's Defense Freight Transportation Services program.

In doing so, Biss Transport became one of the first carriers to support the DFTS project, carrying some of the initial

loads in February 2018 from the U.S. Defense Depot in Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania, as Crowley ramped up its service across North America in support of the multi-year, \$2.3 billion U.S. Department of Defense contract.

In a new video, Bissonnette credits Crowley with the major growth of his company, which has grown to seven drivers and 16 trailers carrying a diverse set of cargo and equipment. Thanks to the partnership, Biss Transport has been able to provide employment to veterans, including a service-disabled veteran. Bissonnette expects more growth to come to meet U.S. defense logistics requirements to support warfighters.

"I literally have a waiting list of people who are interested in working on this because of the way Crowley has handled it. Honestly, the sky's the limit the way that things are going," Bissonnette said.

"Crowley more than delivered. The help that they've given us in expanding the business has been great. The way that they've worked with us, they're more than standing up to what they said they'd do as a group. There's not enough good to say about them. It's not just one or two people — it's the entire team."

Working with Crowley has resulted in a significant increase in volume. Prior to signing on with Crowley for military logistics moves, Biss Transport on average

was moving one full truckload each week. Now they are transporting nearly 40 FTLs weekly, Bissonnette said.

Not only does the service aid defense customers, it helps the small businesses that serve as carriers maximize the utilization of drivers, trucks and equipment, Bissonnette said.

Underpinning that efficient management is strong communication. If Biss team members have a question, Crowley's carrier staff quickly responds and helps them develop a solution to properly manage cargo loading and transportation.

"That adds a whole level of confidence

Chamber holds Before Hours networking breakfast at AAA

By Christine Rodenbaugh

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chamber Before Hours event was held Aug. 7 at AAA-The Auto Club Group located at 840 A1A North, Suite 180 in Ponte Vedra Beach. The monthly event allows members to get to know a local business and learn about its services. Attendees have an opportunity to make strong business connections while sharing conversation and breakfast.

Gloria Dongara, life specialist at AAA Ponte Vedra, is the incoming chair for the PVBD Board of Directors and will take office Oct. 1.

For information about Chamber events, call (904) 285-2004.



Jennifer Jenkins and Jackie Smith took advantage of networking time.



ABOVE: Sandy Kavanaugh talks with Gloria Dongara, incoming chair for the PVBD Board of Directors.



LEFT: Lori Adams and Katie Mentor trade business cards at the Chamber Before Hours event Aug. 7.

Photos by Susan Griffin

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Shapiro Group, 2012.

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New luxury pet resort coming to Ponte Vedra

Sawgrass Pet Resort began like many other ventures do, as a dream, an idea driven by passion. The Wagner family, Scott, Kate and their children, Austin and Leeli were excited to make this dream a reality.

Founder, Kate Wagner, has volunteered for shelters and rescues caring for animals for years prior to becoming the vice president and southeast rescue coordinator for The Grayter Good Weimaraner Rescue. Having a special affinity for weimaraners and hosting more than 90 in her home since 2015, she says that all of them have had an impact on their family.

“Kids growing up with animals, dogs in particular, develop an early understanding of compassion, empathy, companionship, responsibility and acceptance,” Kate Wagner said.

Austin and Leeli play a big part in their mom’s rescue efforts and many a weekend day were sacrificed to complete a transport or help with a dog that needs placement.

This ever-present passion for animals propelled Kate Wagner to embark on her next big venture, Sawgrass Pet Resort, a dog daycare and boarding facility, which

is projected to open Winter 2019. Kate Wagner’s mission for this venture is “To provide a safe, active, recreational, healthy environment while improving the quality of life for dogs and serving the local community.”

Scott and Kate Wagner are both incredibly excited about this project and eager to provide this service to the Ponte Vedra Beach area. After a long day of playing and socializing in this new resort, the family dog will be relaxed and ready to come home or continue to enjoy their stay in one of the Luxury Kennels. A veterinarian is also available on property making this a full-service facility.

The Wagner family live by the mottos of moving forward and living life with love, laughter and purpose.

The Small Business Development Center, and consultant, Marge Cirillo, assisted in connecting Kate with funding sources and development of her business plan and forecast.

“Every business owner should contact the SBDC for assistance. I couldn’t have done it without them,” Kate Wagner said.

Sawgrass Pet Resort procured its final approvals to move forward and break



Photo courtesy of Kate Wagner

The Wagner family, Scott, Kate and their children, Austin and Leeli were excited to break ground Aug. 19 for Sawgrass Pet Resort opening in winter 2019.

ground after almost two years of planning and permitting. The 5,000-square-foot facility for dog daycare and boarding will be located at 8050 Sawgrass Village

Circle in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. Keep up with Sawgrass Pet Resort on Facebook and Instagram #32082DOGLIFE.



Photo courtesy of Power Tee

Invite Power Tee Roadshow to make stop in Ponte Vedra area

This summer, Power Tee has hit the road, visiting driving ranges and country clubs around the east coast to demonstrate the system and show businesses how Power Tee can improve the overall customer experience at a range.

The Power Tee roadshow started in Massachusetts and has traveled through New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Virginia, South Carolina and Florida, with a visit to some states more than once. This is just the beginning for Power Tee as well. Power Tee will be bringing on demonstrators that will drive

across the country to meet with ranges and country clubs.

Even though future trips are already planned, Power Tee is also now taking recommendations for future stops, giving range owners and decision makers at country clubs, the opportunity to meet with Power Tee while they are in an area. To make a recommendation, send an email to info@powertee.com with the subject, “Power Tee Roadshow Recommendation” and a nearby location might be chosen.

Visit www.powertee.com for more information.

Hundreds of backpacks provided to military children

Operation Homefront, in partnership with CSX, distributed approximately 250 backpacks and essential school supplies to military children in Northeast Florida on Friday, Aug. 9, as a part of Operation Homefront’s annual Back-to-School Brigade.

“Purchasing school supplies is often a significant expense for military families. These donated school supplies boost the morale and success of our military children in Jacksonville, while easing the parent’s financial burden of the back-to-school season,” said Beth McGregor, program coordinator of Operation Homefront. “The generosity of CSX, exhibited through its Pride in Service program, allow us to help these military families, often in the midst of deployments and other stresses of military life, get through the economic difficulties shared by American citizens.”

The BTSB event is Operation Homefront’s nationwide collection of school supplies and backpacks distributed to the children of E1 through E6 military families as well as to all ranks of wounded, ill or injured veterans and their families. With the help of CSX

volunteers, backpacks were successfully prepared and distributed. As part of Operation Homefront’s mission to build strong, stable, and secure military families, the BSTB program is one of the ways they provide military families with much needed support throughout the year.

“CSX is excited to support Operation Homefront, one of our Pride in Service partners, in our hometown of Jacksonville,” said Bryan Tucker, vice president of corporate communications. “Operation Homefront works closely with Jacksonville’s military community to understand their unique needs. We are proud to be able to give back to the families in our community who have already given us so much.”

Since 2008, Operation Homefront’s Back-to-School Brigade has provided more than 350,000 backpacks to military families nationwide. The annual program is sponsored by national partners Dollar Tree and SAIC. During this year’s campaign, Operation Homefront will distribute its 375,000th backpack, saving military families more than \$40 million in back to school expenses.



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Jacksonville therapy group helps busy professionals prioritize self-care

Professionals juggle many roles and typically neglect self-care, leaving them feeling stressed and overwhelmed. Established in April 2019, Therapy Topia specializes in working with high-functioning professionals who are experiencing everyday stresses. The solution-focused therapy practice provides a safe space for individuals to work on self-care, including but not limited to psychological, emotional, professional, spiritual, social, physical, financial and environmental aspects of life.

A Jacksonville-native, Lequita Brooks is the CEO and Founder of Therapy Topia. She holds a Master of Social Work from Florida State University and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Brooks has extensive experience as a social worker working with Employee Assistance Programs and in hospice care as well as nearly seven years of experience with the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program.

“I created Therapy Topia because I have always enjoyed helping others, and I wanted to create a lifestyle that offers flexibility as I support my family,” Brooks said. “This business offers simple self-care strategies that people can apply



Lequita Brooks

to their life to become the best version of themselves. We are here to simplify your life; therefore, we offer convenient online scheduling options to book an appointment.”

For information, call (904) 747-8641 or visit therapytopia.com.

Defense

Continued from 21

in commercial driving. You wouldn't have this level of honesty, of having your back, of transparency, that you see here in many other places,” Bissonnette said. “The amount of freight that we're moving here, I've never seen this kind of performance in anything that I've done.”

Crowley manages 1,800 moves daily,

and carriers who are small businesses are crucial to successfully meeting DoD logistics needs to support warfighter readiness across North America. The freight all kinds, or FAK, contract encompasses all forms of surface transportation throughout the continental U.S., Alaska and Canada. The services include less than truckload, full truckload, time-definite and rail.

Even with the large volume of cargo moving in support of the DoD, Crowley makes taking care of its small business partners a priority. Leveraging efficiencies of technology, carriers and other partners are paid within 48 hours so they are not unduly burdened financially waiting for payments for a month — also known as net 30.

The company's carrier development team under Crowley Solutions has continued to invest in building relationships across the U.S. with small-to-midsize fleets. That includes attending industry events and conducting small business seminars across the country, where Crowley's team connected with Bissonnette and other small business owners.

“We are able to deliver high-performance solutions to our warfighters because of the investments in relationships we have with our small business carriers,” Jerome Thomas, manager, carrier development, for Crowley Solutions said. “Our team works diligently to build genuine relationships and our carriers know that we stand by their side as a partner, and together, we provide an unparalleled service to our men and women in uniform.”

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ABOVE: Nick Saam and Hannah Kim announced they are launching a second Pet Wants business in St. Johns.

RIGHT: Pet Wants, a pet food delivery service, attends the Nocatee Farmers Market on third Saturdays with a tent like this one.

Photos courtesy of Pet Wants



Natural pet food delivery service expands to St. Johns

Nick Saam and Hannah Kim, the local entrepreneurs who opened Pet Wants Jax Beach last summer, recently announced they are launching a second Pet Wants business – Pet Wants St. Johns.

“The community has been very receptive to Pet Wants – having fresh, high-quality pet food delivered right to your door is unique. We have more than 350 monthly customers and we are continuing to grow every day. We’re excited to build on that growth by officially expanding into St. Johns,” Saam said.

Pet Wants’ specially-crafted, private label pet food formulas are made in small batches with fresh, natural ingredients enhanced with vitamins and minerals for a complete and balanced diet in every bowl. Pet Wants St. Johns offers multiple blends of dog and cat food formulas as well as healing salve, calming balm, anti-itch spray and paw wax.

“The people in St. Johns and St. Augustine have been very supportive of our business. We already have 75 customers in St. Johns County and we don’t see that growth slowing down any time soon. As we considered expanding our businesses, moving into St. Johns made perfect sense. We’re excited to be

able to better serve this community,” Saam said.

Saam and Kim were recognized as the Pet Wants Rookies of the Year at the Pet Wants conference earlier this year because of their quick growth and commitment to the community. Pet Wants Jax Beach and Pet Wants St. Johns will both operate out of the couple’s renovated 25-foot Airstream as well as their new “Lil’ Pet Food Truck,” which they are able to take to farmers markets and food truck events. Pet Wants also offers free, personal delivery throughout the Jacksonville and St. Johns areas.

Pet Wants has a 100%, money-back guarantee on the freshness and quality of the food and the company seeks to source the best salmon, chicken, lamb, brown rice and other ingredients available. There’s no sugar added, no fillers and no animal byproducts and Pet Wants never uses corn, wheat, soy or dyes, which makes the food great for animals with allergies.

To learn more about Pet Wants St. Johns or to place a delivery order, call (904) 373-8770, email HKim@PetWants.com or NSaam@PetWants.com, or visit www.PetWantsJaxBeach.com.

Jacobson

Continued from 20

Paying for college is challenging. After all, for the 2018-19 academic year, the average annual cost including tuition, fees, and room and board, was \$21,370 for in-state students at public four-year colleges or universities; for four-year private schools, the corresponding expense was \$48,510, accord-

ing to the College Board. And college costs will likely continue to rise over the next several years. But, as we’ve seen, by being proactive and having a plan in place, prospective college students and their families can go a long way toward coping with these expenses and helping loved ones enjoy the benefits of higher education.

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LOCAL AUTHOR HOLDS BOOK SIGNING

Local novelist Maggie FitzRoy signs copies of her novel for Rachel Root (center) and Martha Read. The BookMark hosted a book signing and author talk for Fitzroy Thursday, Aug. 15, when she spoke about what inspired her newest historical romance, "Beacon Beach," and how she researched the settings for the story, set in a grand beachside resort during America's Gilded Age. A former journalist with several Beaches newspapers, including The Ponte Vedra Recorder, FitzRoy lives in Ponte Vedra Beach. The BookMark, located in Neptune Beach, has author-signed copies available for sale.

Photo by Bob Mack



REVIEW

Here We Go Again: Alhambra has another musical hit with 'Mamma Mia'

By Paris Moulden

It's been over a week and no matter what I do, I still can't get ABBA's "Dancing Queen" out of my head.

Maybe it's because it's such a catchy tune, or because of the fun time the audience had during the renditions of "Dancing Queen" at the Alhambra Theatre and Dining's performance of "Mamma Mia."

The long-running Broadway staple tells the story of a young woman living in the Greek isles who wants to find her biological father before she walks down the aisle. Unbeknownst to her mother, she invites the three men she believes could be her dad to her wedding and, of course, chaos ensues.

Grace Gibbons stars as bride-to-be Sophie Sheridan, and her voice is mesmerizing, much like her performance as Ariel in Alhambra's production of "The Little Mermaid." Kelly Atkins stars as Sophie's mom, Donna, who has the unenviable task of marrying off her 20-year-old daughter while finding out three ex-beaus have come to town. Atkins does a great job conveying the overwhelming demands of a single mom and business owner trying to keep her island taverna afloat, while also dealing with past relationships and the footloose, free-spirited woman she once was.

The three potential fathers, Sam Carmichael (Jim Sorenson), Bill Austin (Jim Ballard) and Harry Bright (Billy Clark Taylor), are all very different, but it's easy to see what Donna saw in each of them. Sam, however, is the one who draws most of Donna's ire and the one who left her with a broken heart, so their chemistry is most significant. The three actors do a great job defining each character and their individual characteristics.

It's probably no surprise the biggest scene stealers were Lisa Valdini and Karen Coughlin, who play Donna's friends Rosie and Tanya. The three friends comprised Donna and Dynamos in the 1970s, and while their dance moves may have gotten a little rusty over the years, the talent and passion for performing is still very much there.

Coughlin perfectly captures the wealthy, thrice-divorced Tanya's sophisticated yet zany personality, and her performance of "Does Your Mother Know" was delightful. Valdini was easily

Fall musical theatre, acting programs begin soon

Players by the Sea Theatre reignites education program

An improvisation-based acting program and solo and ensemble musical theatre workshop is coming to Players by the Sea. Each program is geared toward middle and high school students. Executive Director of Players by the Sea Theatre in Jacksonville Beach, Suzanne Hudson-Smith has focused the past year on rebuilding an education program.

"We believe that theatre is transformative for our young actors. They begin to realize that theatre is powerful in building self-esteem, teamwork, expression and focus," Hudson-Smith said.

Fall into Fall, a 16-week program, stresses ensemble acting and character development, promoting empathy, risk-taking, emotional literacy and dramatic presence. Actors will put these skills to the test through a production of the comedy "CUT" on Dec. 12 and 13.

The program begins with auditions from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25 at Players by the Sea Theatre, 106 6th St. N. in Jacksonville Beach. Students should prepare a two-minute story that they are emotionally invested in. Classes will be



Photo courtesy of Players by the Sea Theatre

from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday from Aug. 28 to Dec. 13.

Guest teacher and director Barbara Colaciello teaches communication, collaboration and critical thinking through a process-oriented study of theater and improvisation at BABS'LAB. Colaciello was the educational & outreach direc-

tor of Players by the Sea from 2005 to 2014. Players welcomes her back as guest director for the Fall 2019 season.

A Fall Musical Theatre Intensive for grades 5 through 12 will be led by Jereme Raickett and Andrew Sardoni. Raickett

THEATRE continues on Page 28

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'MAMMA MIA' continues on Page 27



'Mamma Mia'

Continued from 26

a crowd favorite as Rosie with her hilarious delivery and physical comedy, especially during her performance of "Take a Chance on Me," while pursuing the affections of Aussie Bill Austin.

The music of Swedish pop group ABBA is perhaps the show's biggest star and is performed beautifully by the cast. Some of the best moments are the group performances that take advantage of each cast member's vocal strengths, like "Lay All Your Love on Me," "Gimme, Gimme, Gimme" and, of course, "Mamma Mia."

Alhambra's "Mamma Mia" is a hard ticket to get, but the theater is continuing to add dates, including a matinee showing Thursday, Aug. 29, but fair warning, it may be awhile before you get ABBA out of your head.

The show runs through Sept. 15. For more information, go to www.alhambrajax.com



Photos courtesy of Alhambra Theatre & Dining

The cast of "Mamma Mia" performs at Alhambra Theatre & Dining.

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Abstract, wildlife artist to present talk in St. Augustine

Featured artist Dee Roberts will present a talk about her processes during St. Augustine's First Friday Art Walk at 6 p.m. Sept. 6 at Butterfield Garage.

Roberts' goal as an artist is to catch the spirit of what she sees in abstract form as well as through naturalistic wildlife drawings. She works with pastels, watercolor, collage and acrylic, garnering many top awards around Florida and Georgia.

In Jacksonville, Roberts had a two-person show at the Cummer and has art in the permanent collections of the University of North Florida, St. Johns Country Day School and AT&T. Her work has been included in juried shows at Jacksonville University, Florida State College at Jacksonville, University of North Florida, the

Karpeles Museum, the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens and the Jacksonville Art Museum. She was included in an international exhibit held by the National Watercolor Society and the International Collage Society. She has received signature status with the Florida Watercolor Society. Roberts has been awarded many prizes in shows at the St. Augustine Art Association as well as special awards at their annual Honors Show including the Brian Wolfe Award for best painting, the Ann James Prize for Best Pastel Portrait and Best in Show.

This year, Roberts received the prestigious Carl Steinsieck Award in St. Augustine's Figure show. She participates in the Art Guild of Orange Park, the



"Fluid," an abstract by Dee Roberts, will be featured at Butterfield Garage during St. Augustine's First Friday Art Walk.

Society of Mixed Media Artists and the Jacksonville Watercolor Society. Roberts was part of an Abstract Show at the Jacksonville International Airport in 2017 and is currently in a three-person show at Southlight Gallery in Jacksonville. Roberts



"Combustion," by Dee Roberts.

has had notable solo shows at various galleries as well as St. Johns Country Day School and the Thrasher Horne Center for the Performing Arts.

Butterfield Gallery is located at 137 West King Street in St. Augustine.

Theatre

Continued from 26

is production manager at Players and a talented performer-vocalist seen in shows at

the Alhambra Theatre. Sardoni is a talented musician who was the assistant musical director for "Let's Put on a Musical!" this summer.

These directors will lead a 12-week course designed so students receive indi-

vidualized attention in learning vocal technique, stage presence, audition etiquette and presentation skills. Starting Aug. 27th, classes for fifth through eighth graders will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and ninth through twelfth graders will

be every Thursday at the same time. The course ends with students presenting a Musical Theatre Showcase on Nov. 15 and 16.

Tuition for each program is \$320. For more information, visit playersbythesea.org or call (904) 249-0289 to register.

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THEME: THE BEATLES

ACROSS

1. Patsy, e.g.
6. Olden-day aerosol can propellant, acr.
9. Between generations
13. Reduction/oxidation portmanteau
14. ____ Tsu
15. Page or Grable
16. Out in the open
17. Legal org.
18. Often-missed humor
19. *"Nowhere man, the world is at your ____"
21. *"...love was such an easy game ____"
23. *"____ time at all, all you gotta do is call..."
24. *One more than The Beatles
25. 2019, Year of the ____
28. Shell and its contents
30. Showing on TV
35. Mars, to the Greeks
37. "On a ____" or carefree
39. Rock bottom
40. Asian weight unit
41. Gladiator venue
43. Site of Leaning Tower
44. Zero calorie sweetener
46. Arab ruler
47. Zac Brown Band's 2008 hit
48. Tight-____
50. H or O in H₂O, e.g.
52. ____ the season!
53. Word type
55. Booking photograph
57. *"...take a sad song and make it ____"
60. *"...____, it's been a long cold lonely winter"
64. 2 halves of a diameter
65. Sis' sibling
67. Sign of a saint, pl.
68. Financial backer
69. Summer mo.
70. *"...but you can ____ how to play the game"
71. Pressure inducer
72. Born, in society pages
73. Synchronizes, for short

DOWN

1. Gator's cousin
2. To the left, prefix
3. Footnote word
4. Norman Bates' Mother
5. Opposite of extinct
6. Decked out
7. *Like The Four
8. Raccoon's South American cousin
9. *"...listen to my story all about the ____ who came to stay?"
10. Dwarf buffalo
11. Small and weak
12. Stratego piece S
15. Deliver via Keystone
20. Spiral-horned African antelope
22. Spermatozoa counterpart
24. Supervisor
25. *"Yesterday" star
26. Baghdad resident
27. "Faster!" to a horse
29. *"...and if she's beside me I know I need never ____"
31. Wholly engrossed
32. "The ____," Dostoyevsky's novel
33. One born to Japanese immigrants
34. *"Jojo left his home in Tucson, Arizona for some California ____"
36. Dueler's blow
38. Opposite of purl
42. Something in the air
45. Dal seed
49. Anonymous John
51. Street artist's masterpiece
54. City-like
56. Sticky
57. Misery cause
58. U2 guitarist
59. Wedding cake part
60. Venetian magistrate
61. A Flock of Seagulls' 1982 hit
62. Narcotics agent
63. Singular of genges
64. Drake's genre
66. Parisian way

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Sports

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Nease, PVHS set for season-opening showdown



Photos by Jeff Heinemann/The Image Caddy

ABOVE: PVHS quarterback Jacobi Myers runs the ball against Oakleaf during the Kickoff Classic Aug. 16.

RIGHT: A Sharks defender tackles an Oakleaf player during the preseason scrimmage.

By Paris Moulden

The Nease and Ponte Vedra football teams will face off at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at Ponte Vedra High School in the season opener for both teams.

The Panthers defeated Paxon 26-6 in the Kickoff Classic on Aug. 16, and the Sharks fell to Oakleaf 44-7 in their preseason scrimmage.

Both Nease and PVHS are opening the season with new coaches.

Panthers' coach Collin Drafts came to Nease from AC Flora High

School in Columbia, South Carolina. He took over for Tim Krause, who left for Bishop Kenny after five years at Nease.

Sharks' coach Jeff DiSandro was previously the offensive coordinator at Bishop Kenny. He replaced Matt Toblin, who took over the head coaching job at Bolles after five seasons at PVHS.

PVHS finished last season 8-3, following a playoff loss to Godby (Tallahassee) in the Region 1-5A quarterfinals. Nease finished last season with a 3-7 record.



A look at the Jaguars All-25

After the first home game of the 2019 preseason, competing (and coming up short) against newly signed QB, Nick Foles's former team, the Philadelphia Eagles (10-24), the Recorder continues looking back at the past 25 years of the National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars.

The Jags may have their ups and downs, but it's safe to say that without the franchise, Jacksonville wouldn't be the grimy and ruthless, yet optimistic and loyal city it is today. The franchise was born in 1994. The Jaguars All-25 is a recognition of the top 25 inactive players in franchise history. Here's a look at five of the players who were honored throughout July. Look for players 16-11 in last week's sports section and for the top five players of the All-25 in next week's edition.



John Henderson

10 DL John Henderson
As the ninth overall pick in the 2002 NFL Draft, Henderson played for eight seasons with the Jaguars and totaled 426 tackles, 29 sacks and eight forced fumbles. He played for 124 games with Jacksonville and earned two Pro Bowl selections in 2004 and 2006. Henderson has the second most appearances by a defensive lineman and totaled 29 career sacks, ranking fourth in Jags history.



Marcus Stroud

9 DT Marcus Stroud
Selected in the 2001 NFL Draft in the first round (13th overall), Marus Stroud played in all 80 games in his first five seasons (out of seven) and totaled 274 tackles, 22 sacks, six forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries. Stroud also had three consecutive appearances in the Pro Bowl from 2003-2005.



Rashean Mathis

8 CB Rashean Mathis
Mathis was selected 39th overall and in the second round of the 2003 NFL Draft by the Jacksonville Jaguars. He totaled 30 INTs, 512 INT return yards and 30 total takeaways, the most in franchise history. In 2006, Mathis recorded eight interceptions while on his way to the Pro Bowl.



Keenan McCardell

7 WR Keenan McCardell
The two-time Pro Bowl selection and Super Bowl champion played six seasons with the Jacksonville Jaguars and started in 150 out of the 154 games throughout his playing career. McCardell totaled 499 receptions for 6,393 yards and 30 TDs, placing him second in team history for all three categories. In 2017, he was hired as the wide receivers coach for the Jags.



Tony Brackens

6 DE Tony Brackens
Tony Brackens was selected in the 1996 NFL Draft by the Jaguars. After 12 sacks and eight forced fumbles, he was named to the 1999 Pro Bowl and holds the franchise record with eight consecutive games with a sack in the 2001 season. Brackens also holds the franchise records for total sacks (55), forced fumbles (28) and fumble recoveries (13).

Compiled by Daniela Toporek • Photos courtesy of the Jacksonville Jaguars

More players will be published each week in the Recorder. For more information, visit www.jaguars.com/all25.

Miscellaneous

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Enroll in a branch by August 30, 2019. Business owner? Ask about our business savings rates.

Offers available in CT, DE, FL, NJ, NY, and PA. *Portfolio by Wells Fargo*[®] customers are eligible to receive an additional bonus interest rate on these accounts.³

1. To qualify for the advertised APY, you must enroll your new or existing Platinum Savings account in this offer between 07/08/2019 and 08/30/2019 by speaking to a banker and requesting the special rate. Offer is subject to change at any time, without notice, and is available only to Platinum Savings customers in the following states: CT, DE, FL, NJ, NY, PA. In order to earn the Special Interest Rate of 1.98% (Special Rate), you must deposit \$25,000 in new money to the enrolled savings account and maintain a minimum daily account balance of \$25,000 throughout the promotional interest rate period. "New money" is money from sources outside of the customer's current relationship with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or its affiliates (which includes all deposit, brokerage and loan/credit accounts). The corresponding Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for this offer is 2.00%. The Special Rate will be applied to the enrolled savings account for a period of 12 months, starting on the date the account is enrolled in the offer. However, for any day during that 12 month period that the daily account balance is less than the \$25,000, the enrolled account will not be eligible for the Special Rate and will instead earn the applicable Standard Interest Rate for a Platinum Savings account. As of 05/31/2019, the Standard Interest Rate and APY for a Platinum Savings account in CT, FL, NJ and NY with an account balance of \$0.01 and above is 0.05% (0.05% APY); and for a Platinum Savings account in DE and PA with an account balance of \$0.01 to \$99,999.99 is 0.05% (0.05% APY) and with an account balance of \$100,000 and above is 0.10% (0.10% APY). Each tier shown reflects the current minimum daily collected balance required to obtain the applicable APY. Interest is compounded daily and paid monthly. The amount of interest earned is based on the daily collected balances in the account. Upon the expiration of the 12 month promotional period, then-current Standard Interest Rates apply. Minimum to open a Platinum Savings account is \$25. A monthly service fee of \$12 applies in any month the account falls below a \$3,500 minimum daily balance. Fees may reduce earnings. Interest rates are variable and subject to change without notice. Wells Fargo may limit the amount you deposit to a Platinum Savings account to an aggregate of \$1 million. 2. Available in-branch only; you must speak with a banker to request the special rate. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective for accounts opened between 07/08/2019 and 08/30/2019 and requires a minimum of \$25,000 in new money brought to Wells Fargo. "New money" is money from sources outside of the customer's current relationship with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or its affiliates (which includes deposit, brokerage and loan/credit accounts). Public Funds and Wholesale accounts are not eligible for this offer. APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Interest is compounded daily. Payment of interest on CDs is based on term: For terms less than 12 months (365 days), interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or at maturity (the end of the term). For terms of 12 months or more, interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. A penalty for early withdrawal will be imposed and could reduce earnings on this account. Special Rates are applicable to the initial term of the CD only. At maturity, the special rate CD will automatically renew for a term of 6 months, at the interest rate and APY in effect for CDs on renewal date not subject to a Special Rate, unless the Bank has notified you otherwise. 1., 2. Due to the new money requirement, new accounts may only be opened at your local branch and you must speak to a banker to request the special rate offers for both new and existing accounts. Wells Fargo reserves the right to modify or discontinue the offer at any time without notice. Minimum new money deposit requirement of at least \$25,000 is for this offer only and cannot be transferred to another account to qualify for any other consumer deposit offer. If you wish to take advantage of another consumer deposit offer requiring a minimum new money deposit, you will be required to do so with another new money deposit as stated in the offer requirements and qualifications. Offer cannot be: • Combined with any other consumer deposit offer. • Reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred, or traded. 3. The Portfolio by Wells Fargo program has a \$30 monthly service fee, which can be avoided when you have one of the following qualifying balances: \$25,000 or more in qualifying linked bank deposit accounts (checking, savings, CDs, FDIC-insured IRAs) or \$50,000 or more in any combination of qualifying linked banking, brokerage (available through Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC) and credit balances (including 10% of mortgage balances, certain mortgages not eligible). If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the bonus interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will discontinue and revert to the Bank's then-current applicable standard interest rate or fee. For bonus interest rates on time accounts, this change will occur upon renewal. If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the remaining unlinked Wells Fargo Portfolio Checking or Wells Fargo Prime Checking account will be converted to another checking product or closed.

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18TH ANNUAL



Benefiting Ascension St. Vincent's Community Outreach Programs

Saturday, September 7, 2019 at 7:00PM
at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

FIELD & FIRE

Featuring acclaimed chefs from some of the most iconic restaurants and resorts in the Southeast.

Proceeds Benefit

ASCENSION ST. VINCENT'S
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
PROGRAMS

ST. VINCENT'S
HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION
A Foundation Of Care

Founding Partners



In Partnership With



Miller Electric Company
"Quality Service Since 1928"

VIP Preview
Reception Sponsor



Celebrity Chef by the Sea
Luncheon Sponsor



DeliciousDestinationsJax.com
Sponsorships are now available
starting at \$600 on our website
or call (904) 308-7306.