

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

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Sing Out Loud Festival TOPS THE CHARTS

Setting a new record for number of acts performing during the month-long Sing Out Loud Festival, 334 national, regional and local performers will play 88 showcases at 11 venues beginning Friday and continuing on weekends until Sept. 29. **Read more on page 5**



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh



CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!
Help us celebrate
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CAR OF THE WEEK

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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.

Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for The Shoppes at Ponte Vedra. The winner by random draw was **Tom Bailey**. Congratulations, Tom — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



Note: Some information may not be updated because of earlier deadlines due to Hurricane Dorian.

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

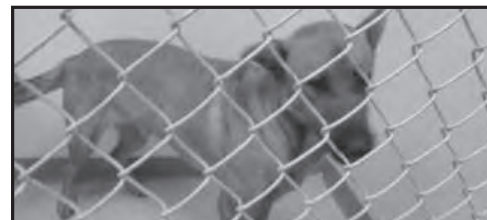
Rosebud was brought to us as a stray. She is a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair/tabby and white. She is



a very sweet, friendly and loveable cat, who loves to have her head scratched. Come see Rosebud today at the Pet Center. #51021

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

DOG OF THE WEEK



DOG OF THE WEEK

Maxwell came to the Pet Center as a stray. He is a beautiful, neutered 3-year-old shephard mix. He is housetrained, gets along with other dogs, loves to play in the water, go for walks and is very sweet and loving. Come see him today at the Pet Center. #51446

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

B	L	U	R	T	P	U	S	M	E	G	S		
L	I	N	E	R	A	G	A	B	E	L	L	A	
A	N	I	M	A	W	H	Y	E	A	S	E	L	
H	E	X	A	G	O	N	S	C	A	L	E	N	E
		P	I	G		D	O	U	R				
P	E	R	C	E	D	I	B	E	L	E	G	A	
O	R	A	L	E	R	S	T	R	E	L	I	C	
I	N	C	A	S	O	L	I	D	E	C	R	U	
N	I	E	C	E	P	I	P	E	K	E	L	T	
T	E	R	E	S	A	K	I	E	V	R	Y	E	
			C	L	U	E		M	O	B			
T	H	E	O	R	E	M	I	S	L	A	N	D	S
B	U	R	R	O	B	I	D	U	S	U	R	P	
S	T	R	E	W	E	V	E	M	A	K	E	R	
P	U	S	S		R	Y	A	E	L	E	G	Y	

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

discover membership

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Oceanfront Masterpiece

Private gated 1.78-acre estate, known as Turtle Hall, exemplifies luxury oceanfront living. With 165 ft of ocean frontage this custom-built estate showcases museum-quality features and craftsmanship throughout this 11,000 sqft home.
5 bedrooms, 6 full /2 half baths \$8,900,000



Waterfront Retreat

Located on a freshwater lagoon this home offers the best of both indoor and outdoor living. Designed for entertaining and enjoying the Florida weather, the backyard features a summer kitchen, two fire pits, and pool.
5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths \$1,175,000



The Perfect Beach Escape

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



Intracoastal Waterfront Condo

Marina San Pablo 2nd story condo featuring open floor plan, luxury amenities, and private balcony with water views. Conveniently located near shops and restaurants, this effortlessly maintained condo is the ideal retreat from the modern world.
2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths \$475,000



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ARTISTS

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



COLLECTION



OLD PALM VALLEY
\$567,500

Beautifully maintained home on one of the best lots in highly sought-after Ponte Vedra community. Take a splash in the sparkling pool & enjoy peaceful pond & preserve views from your porch! This delightful home features a 3-way split bedroom plan that's perfect for family living & entertaining. MLS 991415

Missy DeKay | 904.613.2445
MissyDeKay@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



SEASCAPE
\$575,000

Exquisitely remodeled condo with panoramic ocean views from every room! This unit offers 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, interior laundry, private storage, all new high impact doors, Italian porcelain floors throughout, accent lighting above crown molding, & a 54-ft. balcony. MLS 993175

Carol Gorey | 904.699.5643
CarolGorey@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



WOODLANDS
\$769,000

This custom-built home offers a private oasis in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach! Situated on a pond surrounded by beautiful gardens, this home features 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, a gourmet kitchen, spacious great room, pool, screened lanai, newer A/C & appliances, & brand-new roof. MLS 1012659

Barbara Maple | 904.280.2829
BarbaraMaple@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PONTE VEDRA BY SEA
\$899,000

Stunning lakefront home in picturesque setting with ocean waves crashing in the distance. This entertainers dream home offers two master bedrooms, a renovated kitchen, oversized outdoor deck, summer kitchen, screened porch, numerous upgrades throughout, & private beach walkway over Guana Preserve. MLS 993594

Denise Miles-Tagami | 904.654.0490
DTagami@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



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Cheers to 50 Years!

Muscle cars and the Ponte Vedra Recorder

By Christine Rodenbaugh

The 1969 Chevrolet Camaro Z28 is arguably one of most desirable muscle cars ever built. What were you driving in 1969?

What were milestone events in your life? 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.



NOCATEE HAPPENINGS: UPCOMING EVENTS



FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

Featuring the Honey Hounds
Friday, Sept. 13, 6 – 9 p.m.
Nocatee Station Field

Some of Jacksonville's favorite food trucks will gather at Nocatee Station Field to serve members of the community local one-of-a-kind, gourmet food and snacks. This event is open to the public and will feature live music by the Aaron Mansfield Duo. Drinks will be available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines. There will also be a kidzone with bounce house inflatables (weather permitting). Residents are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets and bug spray.

NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET

Saturday, Sept 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Nocatee Station Field

The Nocatee Farmers Market features BMX Extreme Extravaganza from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Along with this fun theme, the Farmers Market is open to the public and features more than 70 local vendors selling fresh produce, crafts, jewelry, herbs, unique foods and more. There will also be crafts and bounce houses for the kids to enjoy! The bounce houses and crafts will close 15 minutes before the end time of the market. Bounce Houses are weather permitting. Plus, the bar will be open for beer and wine purchases.



Children's Home Society of Florida to host 36th annual Caring Chefs event

By Amber Lake

Supporting a great cause can sometimes be as easy as sampling some of Jacksonville's best culinary creations. That is, if you're attending the annual Children's Home Society of Florida's Caring Chefs event.

Now in its 36th year, Caring Chefs is scheduled from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, at the Avenues Mall.

Throughout the mall, chefs from around Jacksonville volunteer their time and talent to serve a diverse menu of flavors the city has to offer.

"There are so many great and unique restaurants that are all over the city and I know that sometimes depending on where you're located you don't necessarily get out to certain areas and try certain restaurants," said Samantha D'Agostino, special events manager of Children's Home Society of Florida. "I would really love this event because you get a chance to experience some places that maybe you always wanted to try but have never had the opportunity."

In addition to trying new foods, guests can enjoy wine, craft beer and

live entertainment.

The Caring Chefs event draws more than 2,000 guests from around the region.

"This event is definitely deep rooted in our city's history," D'Agostino said. "It's growing and it's getting bigger than ever."

This year, unlike past years, Caring Chefs will also host a VIP Pre-Party for an "exclusive look at the event." The Pre-Party will include early admission plus a designated VIP area with food, beverages and live entertainment.

At the heart of the Caring Chefs, however, is the Children's Home Society of Florida, which receives about 90% of sponsorship dollars from the event. The nonprofit serves more than 10,000 children and families in Northeast Florida, which includes services like counseling, adoption, fostering and child welfare programs.

"CHS was founded in 1902, we are celebrating 115 years of being a leader in serving kids and families," D'Agostino said. "It's events like these that really help us to continue to help support our local families and the programs we offer them."



Photos by Susan Griffin

Sing Out Loud Festival tops the charts



Each weekend in September, beginning Friday, Sept. 6 and running through Sunday, Sept. 29, 11 St. Augustine venues will host free live performances by hundreds of singers, musicians, poets and comedians in an epic celebration of live entertainment known as the Sing Out Loud Festival.



Photos courtesy of The Amp

Billy Buchanan and his Rock N Soul Revue performed at Colonial Oak in 2018. Look for him on the 2019 schedule, too.

Record-breaking 334 national, regional and local performers to play 88 showcases at 11 venues during Florida's largest free music festival in September

Setting a new record for number of acts performing during the month-long Sing Out Loud Festival, 334 national, regional and local performers will play 88 showcases at 11 St. Augustine venues beginning Friday. Florida's largest free music festival and benefit concert happens right in Ponte Vedra's backyard.

Each weekend in September, beginning Friday, Sept. 6 and running through Sunday, Sept. 29, 11 St. Augustine venues will host free live performances by hundreds of singers, musicians, poets and comedians in an epic celebration of live entertainment. The full schedule detailing the acts, the venues and set times is available at www.singoutloudfestival.com.

Festival performers range in genres from indie rock, Americana, blues, hip-hop and electronica to spoken word, bluegrass, punk rock, jazz and comedy. This year's Festival brings local and regional acts together with headliners such as Grammy award-winning country music star Kacey Musgraves, retro soul group St. Paul & The Broken Bones, indie pop songstress Jenny Lewis, lo-fi guitar hero Kurt Vile, Americana troubadours Shovels & Rope, hip-hop icon and member of Wu-Tang Clan GZA, beach goth purveyors The Growlers, punk rock torchbearers Hot Water Music

and Propagandhi, indie rock charmer Phosphorescent, New Orleans brass troupe The Dirty Dozen Brass Band and many more.

Every performance is free and open to the public with exception of the Saturday, Sept. 21 Kacey Musgraves Benefit Concert, which has been sold out for weeks. Musgraves' concert benefits HorsePlay Therapy Center and Green Hands Initiative Community Outreach Programs.

In addition to live performances, workshops led by national music industry professionals will be held the weekend of Sept. 21 and 22. The topics will focus on artist development, music marketing and the recording industry.

The St. Johns County Cultural Events Division, which owns and operates the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, and the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council produce the annual Festival. Since its inception in 2016, the festival has welcomed an estimated 75,000 music fans, featured more than 900 performing artists at a dozen local venues and raised over \$100,000 for charitable organizations such as the Betty Griffin House of St. Johns County, United Way and the OneOrlando Fund.

For more information, visit www.singoutloudfestival.com.

SING OUT LOUD FESTIVAL 2019 ARTIST LINEUP (in alphabetical order)

86 Hope • Aaron Lee Tasjan • Aaron Mansfield • Ancient City Poets • Arrows In Action • AD Deathstrike • Adam Lee • Alex Peramas • Alex Shakar • Amanda Marie • Ample Angst • Amy Hendrickson • Amy Robbins • Ancient City Slickers • Andrew Bosscher • Arvid Smith • Aslyn & The Naysayers • Augur Ridge • August Jackson • Austin Palmer • Backdoor Stompers • Bad Dog Mama • Baer & the Lady • Bears & Lions • Bedswearer • Belle and Beyond • Belmont and Jones • Ben Prestage • Big Sad • Billy Buchanan • Blackbird Morning • Blurg • Bob Patterson • Body Heat • Brandon Adams • Brendan Morrison • Brent Byrd Band • Brent McGuffin • Bryce Alastair Trio • Bubba Spliffs • Buffalo Rose • Burl • Butthole • Cat Ridgeway & the Tourists • Catch The Groove • Charlie Robertson • Chelsea Lovitt • Chelsea Saddler Band • Chemtrails • Chillula • Christina Wagner • Claire Vandiver • Colton McKenna • Company Man • Constant Swimmer • Cooper • Coppertones • Crescent Beach Bluegrass Band • CRS • Crucial Eddy Cotton and The Uncanny Valley Boys • Curious Markings • Dad's Day Off • Daisy Chain • Dan Padilla • Danny Attack • Darryl Wise • Dave Hause & The Mermaid • Davis Loose & The Loose Cannons • Dead Feeling • Dead Karen • Debt Neglector • Denny Blue • Denver Hall • Deron Baker • Dewey Via & Unkl Ray Nutter • Dial Drive • Diealps! • Digidog • Dim Lights • Dirty Dozen Brass Band • Divebar • DJ 3 Clops i & Friends • DJ Ragamuffin • Dominic Delaney • Don Oja • Dunaway • Duffy Bishop • Early Disclaimers • Donzii • Doug Carn • Dust Fuss • Electric Supply Company • Ellen Mosely • Ellie Mortillano • Emma Moseley • Ever•G • Expert Timing • Fay Roy • Flat Stanley • Flo.wav • Folk Is People • Fond Kiser • Forrest Isn't Dead • Free

Mace • G.W. Souther • Gary Lazer Eyes • Ghost Flower • Ghost Tropic • Gilt • Gime • Gina Cuchetti • Glass Body • The Grant Paxton Band • Grapes of Roth • Grant Peeples • Greg Ruggiero • Gris Gris Boys • Gunga Din • Gwen McMillin • Gypsy Chyx • GZA • Half My Home • Hannah Harber & The Lionhearts • Hard Luck Society • Have Gun Will Travel • Hello Joyce • Hogtown Creek • Honey Moonshine Band • Hope You're Happy • Hot Water Music • HR Gertner • I Like Dandelions • Il Gato • Immaterial Possession • Indigo Dreamers • Iron Mike Norton • Isabella Parole • I•Vibes • J.R. Ward • Jackie Stranger • Jamie Defrates • Jason & Sarah • Jason Wall • Jenny Lewis • Jesse's Girls • Jim Carrick • Joe Rocco • Johnny Lee • Jon Prestage • Jordan Foley • Jory Lyle • Julie Black Duo • John Dickie IV with Collapsible B • Kacey Musgraves • Kaleb Stewart • Kapowski • Ken Jensen Blues Ensemble • Kid You Not • Kristopher James • Kurt Vile & The Violators • Kyle Keller • Kyra Livingston • L.O.V.E. Culture • Larry Magnum • Lassyu • Last Electric Rodeo • Lauren Bressette • Lauren Heintz • Lauris Vidal • Liam Jones • Lis Williamson & Jim Quine • Lonesome Bert and The Skinny Lizards • Love Chunk • LPT • Lucas • Lucie Silvas • Lucifer Sam • Luis Mario • Luke Otto • Madi Carr • Mallory Jen • Marcus Crespo • Marianne Lerbs • Matt Fowler & Sue Tice Duo • Matthew Fowler • Mattyp • Mental Boy • Meth • Mjbaker • Minimum Rage • Moonlight Drive•In • Mourning Glories • Mudtown • Nathaniel Hawk • Nicholas Roberts • Obscure Brothers • Observatory • Old School Revue • Orbiter • Paco Lipps • Paradox • Pellicer Creek • Penn Johnson • Peyton Lescher • Perfect Strangers • Phosphorescent • Pilot Wave • Poultry Run • Professor Ogma • Propagandhi •

Proud Miranda • Quarter Roy • Rachel Grubb • Ramblin' Mutts • Ramona • Ramona (solo acoustic) • Raye Zaragoza • Reels • Remedy Tree • Reptile Dysfunction String Band • Roll'd Whiskey • Rose Dickeson • Sailor Jane & The Messengers • Salt & Pine • Salt Driven Ride • Saltones • Salty Daug • Sam & Luci • Sam Pacetti • The Sandspurs • Savvy • Sciatica Beach • Shannon Ogden • Shea Birney • Shovels & Rope • Side Hustle • Skin & Bonz • Sleepless • Slofunkpump • Son Volt • Spaceheaters • Starlight Trio • Stephen Pigman • St. Paul & The Broken Bones • Strange String • Strangerwolf • Strayin Anchors • Subhumans • Sugarbeats • Sunset Monday • Sunshine State • Swamp Flower • Sweet William • Syzygy • Teen Divorce • Terri Gamble • Terror Management Band • The Ashley Gang • The Bridge Street Vibe • The Coathangers • The Dewars • The Dog Apollo • The Dunehoppers • The Firewater Tent Revival • The Forum • The Growlers • The House Cats • The Krickets • The Longest Hall • The Menzingers • The Mix • The Moonshine • The Morrow Family Band • The Pauses • The Pemberwicks • The Pinecone Shake • The Reinharads • The Rip Currents • The Rubies • The Rufftons • The Skinny • The Wandering Hours • The Watson Twins • The Weighted Hands • The Wild Shiners • The Willow Wacks • The Wobbly Toms • The Young Step • Timberwood • Timothy Eerie • Todd Jones • Tropic of Cancer • Trust Anchor • Tyler Peshek • Uncle Mosie • Virginitie • Vitamin Geez • Wax Wings • Waylon Thornton & The Heavy Hands • Wetland String Band • Weyes Blood • Whetherman • Whiskey & Co. • Whiskeyface • Whyte Tygers • Wildfire Rising • Willie Evans Jr. • Willwinn • Xaris • Z.F. Lively • Zach Bennett

All the world may be a stage, but Suzanne Hudson-Smith has realized her dream role as executive director at a First Coast community theater where she encourages players to bloom in their craft and shares her love of theater and the magic it creates.

Suzanne Hudson-Smith

What can you share about your background?

I grew up in a small town in Northeast Texas. School was fun. I performed in talent shows in elementary school — ever singing, pantomime and just silly stuff. I was senior class president, National Honor Society president and graduated ninth in my class of 350 — so I did OK for a theater-minded student.

Have you always loved theater?

I committed to majoring in theater when I was in seventh grade, so I took all that silly and focused it on theater. I didn't really know what that meant at the time, but I knew I was good at it (remember, small town). The summer before my senior year I went to a theater workshop at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos, Texas ... and I was hooked. I saw the school, met talented like-minded actors, did a little Moliere and I was sold on theater. My parents were not, so I do have a minor in journalism (she said smiling).

Did you aspire to be an actor?

Yes, I aspired — and through my four years of BFA Acting, that was what I was training for. So when I stepped off the stage with my diploma, I got on a plane and flew to my first audition at the Alliance Theater in Atlanta, Georgia to be a part of their equity training program. Hundreds auditioned — and I got in... as a character actress.

I chose not to stay in the equity program because it was too limiting, so I went back to Dallas, worked in corporate America while performing, directing and opening theaters in my spare time.

What was your first paid role?

I was in the one-woman show, "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe," in Sarasota.

What made you come back to community theater?

Community Theater is where it all starts — you get a chance to be in a show, you make friends, you grow as an actor, you learn hands-on about everything! It's the spirit and the passion of theater. Community Theater is where the heart of theater is. It is where people come together simply for the love of the art and performing.

Tell us about your role and Players by the Sea.

As Executive Director of Players by the Sea, my role is to work with the Board of Directors, focusing us all on connecting



The Directors of the Players by the Sea 2019-2020 season. Left to right: Daniel Dungan (*The Toxic Avenger*), Jereme Raickett (*The Wiz*), Suzanne Hudson-Smith (*A Christmas Carol*), Bradley Akers (*Spring Awakening*), Joe Kemper (*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*), Amy Canning Love (*The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*), Michael Lipp (*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*) and Brian Niece (*Two Trains Running*).

our theater to the community so we can provide resources that will allow us to continue to teach and train the next generation of creative talent — young, old, new to theater, experienced — we can all come together at Players by the Sea to create theater magic while being the mentors to the younger artists.

What drives you to take Players to the next level?

There is so much potential for a theater

facility that has two stages and a beautiful gallery reception space. We are reigniting our education program for middle and high school. Seeing the high school students take on their own theater projects as part of the Young Creative Artists series is all the drive it takes to know we're doing the right programs for the right reasons.

Do you have a hobby or passion outside the theater?

My partner and I love to travel, explore

new places and hang out with our friends. I have a motorcycle that I just don't get out on enough!

What is your favorite part about living on the First Coast?

The First Coast area is so easy to explore, with so much to do. It's a rich life when you have a beach, a coast and theater all over the area to enjoy!

Edited by Christine Rodenbaugh

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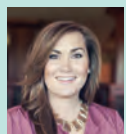
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Thursday, Sept. 5	Friday, Sept. 6	Saturday, Sept. 7	Sunday, Sept. 8
<p>JV Nease High School vs. Bishop Kenny High School football game The Nease High School Panthers will battle it out on the football field against the Bishop Kenny Crusaders from 6 to 9 p.m., Sept. 5, at Bishop Kenny. For more information, call Nease High School during school hours at (904) 547-8300 or email nhs@stjohns.k12.fl.us. Bishop Kenny High School is located at 1055 Kingman Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Jags Kickoff Rally at the Jacksonville Zoo The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation will host an adult pep rally Sept. 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., as the city prepares for the Jacksonville Jaguars 2019 regular season. All guests must be over 21 and can enjoy an open bar, food served by Catering in the Wild, a silent auction, meet-and-greets with mascots, special guests and cheerleaders, animal encounters, live music and an unforgettable Jacksonville Zoo experience. Tickets cost \$35 for Zoo members and \$55 for nonmembers. For more information call (904) 757-4463 or email info@jacksonvillezoo.org. The Jacksonville Zoo is located at 370 Zoo Pkwy. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Grazing board workshop Ideal for a group affair, grazing is all about sampling the very best variety of charcuterie, cheese, nuts, antipasto and sweet delights. Join Liz, The Board Grazer, at Southern Swells from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 5, for a night of DIY grazing. Liz will share her tips on how to put together a grazing board step by step with DIY grazing board station. Guests can also take home their own wooden charcuterie board. For tickets and more information, visit www.904tix.com and search for the "Grazing Board Workshop" event. Southern Swells is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Luna Cruise at Whiskey Jax Whiskey Jax presents the band, Luna Cruise, performing from 7 to 10 p.m., Sept. 5. Luna Cruise is an original rock band with poetry-styled vocal melodies and intricate instrumentation. Luna Cruise brings together 1960s and 70s psychedelic nostalgia and a driving groove, reminiscent of classic icons with a new-age twist. Whiskey Jax is located at 950 Marsh Landing Pkwy., #370 in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Cultural Conversations: Race Cards Discussions about race are avoided out of fear of offending someone or creating uncomfortable situations. The Museum of Science & History and 904WARD invite everyone for "Cultural Conversations: Race Cards," a program designed to facilitate respectful dialogue around race. With the use of friendly moderators, this program hopes to create thought-provoking and open conversation about race, identity and social issues in a welcoming environment. The program is free and open to the public. Guests will also have the opportunity to tour the "Legacy of Lynching" exhibit during the program. Spots are limited, so reserve a spot by visiting www.themosh.org/event. The MOSH is located at 1015 Museum Cir. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Nease High School vs. University of Orange City High School football game The Nease High School varsity football team will be competing Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. against the University of Orange City Titans at home. For more information, call Nease High School during school hours at (904) 547-8300 or email nhs@stjohns.k12.fl.us. Nease High School is located at 10550 Ray Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Pediatric Cancer Awareness event with The Mini Bar and Nemours Take a bite out of Mini Bar donuts and help combat pediatric cancer as the Mini Bar bakers team up with Nemours Children's Specialty Care. All of the proceeds from the event will go to the Nemours Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders during Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month. Tickets are \$10 for adults and includes a drink ticket, take-home beer mug and free food. Tickets are \$5 for kids and includes a three-donut mini pack to decorate. For tickets, visit www.secure.qgiv.com/event/ourpromise. Mini Bar is located at 1300 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Atlantic Beach jazz festival Live musicians will fill the canopy tree cover of Johansen Park at Atlantic Beach's second annual jazz festival from 3 to 8 p.m., Sept. 7. Hosted by the City of Atlantic Beach's Recreation and Special Events, the festival will include a variety of food trucks, vendors and more. Grab a chair, a blanket and beloved friends and family for this free concert event. For more information, call the City of Atlantic Beach's Recreation team at (904) 247-5828 or email recreation@coab.us. Johansen Park is located at 1535 Park Terrace E. in Atlantic Beach.</p> <p>TrailMark's Star Gazing Party Join TrailMark in St. Johns County and the Ancient City Astronomy Club of St. Augustine for a night under the stars from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., Sept. 7. The family-friendly event is free and open to the public. The Ancient City Astronomy Club of St. Augustine is a community of amateur astronomy enthusiasts promoting interest in the heavens and beyond. Club members will have telescopes available or guests may bring their own. TrailMark provides a welcoming environment to enjoy the wonder of the night sky. To attend, pre-register for the at www.EventBrite.com and search for the "TrailMark September Star Gazing Event" event. TrailMark is located at 805 TrailMark Dr. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>River Jam sunset cruise All aboard! Dance while the sun goes down from 7 to 8:45 p.m., Sept. 7, on the River Jam sunset cruise. On Saturday nights, guests depart downtown Jacksonville on the Miss Hadley, cruise along the St. Johns River, listen to live music, look for marine wildlife and watch the sunset. The event is BYOB, so small coolers, drinks and appetizers are welcome on the boat. Return to the sparkling city skyline after an evening of fun, laughter and a scenic view. Boarding is at the Friendship Fountain is at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. To purchase or for more information, visit www.jaxrivertaxi.com. The Friendship Fountain is located at 1015 Museum Circle in Jacksonville.</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>Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Kansas City Chiefs at TIAA Bank Field It's officially the start of the regular NFL season! The Jacksonville Jaguars are kicking off the first game against the number two team in the AFC West, the Kansas City Chiefs. The game starts at 1 p.m. For tickets or more information, visit www.Jaguars.com. TIAA Bank Field is located at 1 TIAA Bank Field Dr. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Game On!: Ponte Vedra Beach triathlon Game On!: Ponte Vedra Triathlon will take place at 6:30 a.m. Sept. 8, at Mickler's Landing Beach. This race will include an Olympic-distance triathlon, duathlon and aquabike, as well as the sprint triathlon and sprint duathlon. The swim will take place in the Atlantic Ocean at Mickler's Beach Landing. Follow with a scenic bike course going south on A1A through the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM Research Reserve). Finish with a run, north on Ponte Vedra Blvd, taking in views of the homes and oceanfront settings. To register or more information, visit www.gameonraceevents.com/events. Mickler's Landing Beach is located at 11095 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>Swing dance Sundays Swing Dance Sundays is a weekly event with free lessons starting at 7 p.m. at The Volstead. Attendees can either bring a partner or join in on their own as they learn and experience all the swingin' steps of this classic, 1920s-style dance. The Volstead is located at 115 West Adams St. in Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, Sept. 9	Tuesday, Sept. 10	Wednesday, Sept. 11	Thursday, Sept. 12
<p>PGA Birdies for the Brave fundraising event at TPC Sawgrass Birdies for the Brave is a fundraising tournament and national military outreach initiative proudly supported by the PGA TOUR. The event is dedicated to honoring and showing appreciation to the courageous men and women of our U.S. Armed Forces and their families. The event offers golf enthusiasts a chance to give back to those who sacrificed in service to the country, while playing some of the world's most renowned championship-caliber golf courses. The event begins at 8 a.m., Sept. 9. For more information, email mattborocz@pga-tourtpc.com. TPC Sawgrass is located at 110 Championship Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>The AMP Night Market Meeting the demand for locally-made goods and gifts is Night Market, taking place the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 6 to 9 p.m. at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. The Night Market showcases over 90 vendors specializing in handmade crafts, goods and art and features food, a full bar and live entertainment. This week, enjoy music from the Colton McKenna Band with Sailor Jane and The Swell Acoustics. The Night Market is open to the public with free admission and free parking. The AMP is located at 1340C A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Monday Trivia at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom on Monday nights at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Talk with a Doc: The Buzz about Blood Sugar Dr. Kelly Rich, M.D., from Baptist Primary Care will host a program at the Ponte Vedra YMCA to educate about the latest research on diabetes, when to be concerned about blood sugar, preventing and managing diabetes, common myths and more. This free event is open to the community. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/hlc to reserve a spot. The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Florida Blue free Tuesday at the Cummer On Tuesday evenings from 4 to 9 p.m., enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum and its historic gardens, thanks to the generous support of Florida Blue. Guests can enjoy free admission to the galleries and the Cummer Café, which is also open for Tapas Tuesday. This event is sponsored by VyStar Credit Union. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club playing date The First Coast Card Club will host its playing date at the St. Augustine Main Library at 1 p.m., Sept. 10. The event is free to attend with walk-ins and guests welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Contact the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to RSVP, the hotel location or for more information. The Main Library is located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>\$1 Tuesdays for kids at Trasca & Co. Take the kids out to eat and save some money on Tuesdays at Trasca & Co. Eatery. Children eat for \$1 with the purchase of an adult entrée. The special works for dine-in, take-out and deliveries. For more information, call Trasca & Co. Eatery at (904) 395-3989. Trasca & Co. is located at 155 Tourside Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Curatorial Choice exhibiton This exhibition is a follow-up for the previous Juried Artist Member Exhibition that featured the work of Cultural Center artist members. The Curatorial Choice exhibition is a selection of artists selected by the curatorial committee from JAME. Works by Bruce Carr, Jeanne Hollington, Vicky Lennon and Karen F. Rose will be on display until Sept. 21 at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Guests are welcome to visit during office hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For more information, call (904) 280-0614. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>North Florida Bicycle Club's Project Hero: 9-11 Memorial Ride In honor of 9/11, the North Florida Bicycle Club will be hosting a memorial ride at Engine 15, honoring those sacrificed their lives that day. Meet-up time will be 5:30 p.m., with a short ceremony starting at 6 p.m. The ceremony will be followed by the National Anthem. From 6:15 until 6:30 p.m., the Highlander Bagpipers will play as riders leave Engine 15. This is a 22-mile bike ride from Engine 15 to Mickler's Landing Beach and back to Engine 15. The bike ride is expected to last until around 8:15 p.m. Lights are required for this ride, as well as helmets. This is a no-drop ride. Bicyclists will ride as one. This is a supportive ride in memory and honor of the day. Engine 15 Brewing is located at 1500 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Newcomers of the Beaches monthly luncheon The Newcomers of the Beaches Club invites new members to attend its luncheon on second Wednesdays of the month. This social club consists of a diverse group of women who have recently moved to the beaches and/or have gone through a major life event. The luncheon will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 11, at the Marsh Landing Country Club. For more information or to make a reservation for the luncheon, visit www.newcomersofthebeaches.com. The Marsh Landing Country Club is located at 25655 Marsh Landing Pkwy. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Pollinators Pollinators play a vital role in our ecosystem, but bees are not the only pollinators out there. Learn why butterfly gardens should really be called a pollinator gardens in this free program at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library at 3 p.m., Sept. 11. This program is open to all ages and no reservations are required. Seating is first-come, first-served. For more information, email Kelly Ussia at kussia@sjcfl.us or call (904) 209-0335. The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Downtown Wine Down Downtown Jacksonville's rooftop bar at Cowford Chophouse will be hosting its "Downtown Wine Down" event from 3:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sept. 12. Listen and dance to live music from local group, The Band Be Easy, while enjoying food and drinks specials, as well as a giveaway for a \$100 Cowford Chophouse gift card and a complimentary sangria cocktail. The rooftop will be open to the event only and closed to the public until 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be found at www.EventBrite.com by searching for "Downtown Wine Down" by Cowford Chophouse. Cowford Chophouse is located at 101 E. Bay St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Blue Sky Golf Club's 5-year anniversary The Blue Sky Golf Club is celebrating five years in business and will be providing \$5 drink specials starting Sept. 12, through Sept. 15. Enjoy specials on multiple cocktails, appetizers and more. Blue Sky Golf Club is located at 1700 Monument Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Intro Series to Power Yoga Big Fish Yoga's "Intro Series" starts yoga practices off right. Join the Big Fish Teaching Team and assistants in the classroom to learn the basics of yoga postures and why this practice works to create strength and flexibility. Expect results and understanding of the practice in this 10-class series meeting Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For dates, pricing and more information, visit www.bigfishpoweryoga.com. Big Fish Power Yoga is located at 3852 S. Third St. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Thirsty Thursday at Al's Pizza What's a better combination than pizza and beer? Every Thursday from open to close, Al's Pizza serves \$1.50 Yuengling Lager and house wines. Al's Pizza is located at 635 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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. Compiled by Daniela Toporek</p>

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Local authors to sign books at open house in The Plantation

Kathleen Floryan, broker associate with eXp Realty, together with Kim M. Davis, broker owner of Ponte Vedra Beach Realty, will host a joint open house featuring two outstanding local authors for a book signing and tour of two homes for sale from 1 to 4 p.m. Sept. 8. Light refreshments will be served.

Both authors will spend time at 112 Carriage Court and 101 Planters Row West, in the exclusive neighborhood of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach signing books and greeting guests. Books will be available for \$20 each. The houses are within walking distance of each other. You must RSVP to Kathleen Floryan or Kim M. Davis to enter through the guard gate.

Local historical romance author Maggie FitzRoy enjoys writing stories that whisk readers into the past, where love is an adventure. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident's new novel, "Beacon Beach," transports readers to Cape May, New Jersey in the summer of 1886. FitzRoy, a former journalist for The Florida Times-Union and First Coast Magazine, did extensive research and interviewed historians to portray the era as accurately as possible.

"Beacon Beach" is a love story, involving mystery, reinvention, redemption and

riveting romantic attraction. It's a great beach book, but also a story that can be enjoyed any time of the year as a romantic escape into the past," FitzRoy said.

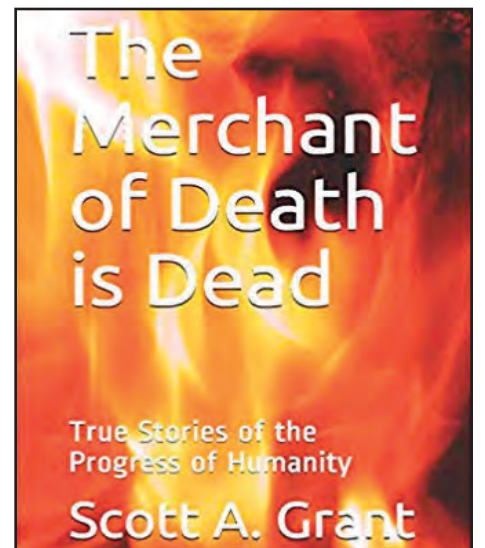
In "The Merchant of Death is Dead," pop historian, asset manager and newspaper columnist Scott A. Grant shares some of his favorite published columns. Stories in the book include those of inventor Alfred Nobel, writer Zora Neale Hurston, football player Deacon Jones, surgeon John Snow, adventurer Annie Edson Taylor, visionary Benjamin Franklin, swimmer Gertrude Ederle, clothing designer Tommy Hilfiger, General James Doolittle, golfers Johnny Miller and Jack Nicklaus, athletes "Bullet" Bob Hayes and Mack Robinson and First Lady Frances Cleveland, plus events such as the discovery of the South Pole, Nazi spies landing on a north Florida beach, and economic bubbles through the years.

Both books will be a delight for any reader and will make great gifts for birthdays, anniversaries and upcoming holidays.

RSVP to Kathleen Floryan at (904) 687-5146 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., or email kathleen.floryan@exprealty.com. For information about Kim Davis, visit kimmdavis.com.



"Beacon Beach" by Maggie Fitzroy



"The Merchant of Death is Dead" by Scott Grant

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THE MERCHANT OF DEATH

In *The Merchant of Death is Dead*, pop historian, asset manager, and newspaper columnist Scott A. Grant shares some of his favorite columns. Stories in the book include those of inventor Alfred Nobel, writer Zora Neale Hurston, football player Deacon Jones, surgeon John Snow, adventurer Annie Edson Taylor, visionary Benjamin Franklin, swimmer Gertrude Ederle, clothing designer Tommy Hilfiger, General James Doolittle, golfers Johnny Miller and Jack Nicklaus, athletes "Bullet" Bob Hayes and Mack Robinson, and First Lady Frances Cleveland, plus events such as the discovery of the South Pole, Nazi spies landing on a north Florida beach, and economic bubbles through the years. Scott A. Grant studied economics and history at Cornell University before working on Wall Street. He later earned a law degree from Rutgers University. Over the last fourteen years he has been a regular columnist for two newspapers and has perfected several history presentations. After two years of touring the local northeast Florida civic clubs, museums, and schools, he was asked to produce a book. This is his first publication. He is delighted to share his knowledge of history and investments.



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BEACON BEACH

Local historical romance author Maggie FitzRoy enjoys writing stories that whisk readers back into the past, where love is an adventure. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident's new novel, *Beacon Beach*, transports them to Cape May, New Jersey in the summer of 1886, when beautiful, wealthy Jacy James travels to America's first seaside resort to grieve the loss of a sea captain she loved, and to climb the lighthouse to search for his ship. At her oceanfront hotel, she meets handsome convalescent Cole Stratton, who has come to the town to regain his health. Jacy and Cole become friends, and then much more amid the glittering, glamorous Gilded Age social whirl of the town—until jealousy, collusion, and a secret from Jacy's past threaten to destroy her newfound happiness, and all hopes for her future.

Ponte Vedra Auto Show adds car corral to line-up

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce will host the 17th annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show presented by Fields Auto Group from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15 at the Nocatee Event Field.

The Auto Show, which is open and free to spectators, will feature up to 180 classic and new collectors' cars all vying for the show's 30 trophies. This year's show features a newly designed website, which is ready for entry registration. Automobile pre-registration is \$35 per vehicle through Sept. 11. Day of registration is \$50 per vehicle. For registration information, visit www.pvautoshow.com.

New to the show this year will be a "Car Corral" sponsored by J7 Motorsports. The Car Corral has been organized for those who want to show off a car, but not have it judged or have a significant car or truck to sell. Car or truck space can be reserved for \$25 on a first-come, first served basis at www.pvautoshow.com.

Four special anniversaries and one Memorial trophy will also be showcased this year. Special anniversaries include the 30th Anniversary of the Lexus, 60th Anniversary of the Mini, and 50th Anniver-



sary of the Porsche Mid-Engine Honoring the Anniversary of the 914, and the 30th Anniversary of the Land Rover Discovery. The Ponte Vedra Auto Show had named

its Best in Show award in honor of its past chairman, Larry Weisman, who passed away earlier this year.

For more show information, visit www.pvautoshow.com or call (904) 285-2004.

To find out more or to register an automobile in the auto show, visit www.pvautoshow.com or call the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division at (904) 285-2004.

The 2019 Ponte Vedra Auto Show is funded in part by the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council.



Photos courtesy of St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

The 17th annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show is set for Sunday, Sept. 15, at Nocatee Event Field.

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Murder mystery set on Ponte Vedra golf course

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Christopher Stone has released his first effort as a novelist, “Murder At The 17th,” a murder mystery centered around the world of professional golf set in Ponte Vedra Beach and along the First Coast.

The plot is further complicated by an impending hurricane threatening a major golf tournament. Pro golfer Jake Perrin, with a reputation for being jerk, is poised to capture the trophy when he meets his demise. Perrin’s sister hires a detective who channels the ghost of Henry Flagler to solve the murder.

Stone wrote the book with lifelong friend, Ron Johnson. They first met in Tallahassee. During the next 30 years, they collaborated on many projects — five bands, a cable access comedy show, and finally the book. The band, Incognito, was a reggae-rockers band. Stone said the pinnacle of their musical careers was recording the FSU football novelty song, “I’m A Noles Fan.”

The duo’s next collaboration was the creation of a skit-comedy cable access show entitled, Cosmic Cookie Comedy Club, which lasted for two years in the early ’90s.

Stone said they got to use their comical sense again with a final collaboration, the book.



Chris Stone and Ron Johnson formed a band in Tallahassee back in the 1980s. Incognito’s biggest gig was opening for Danny Joe Brown of Molly Hatchet.

“My co-writer Ron Johnson and I wrote this 10 years ago. Five years ago, Ron passed away from pancreatic cancer,” Stone said. Johnson never got to see the book in print.

The two came up with the idea of writing a book after discussing a mutual love of Carl Hiaasen’s style. Both had read all of his books and decided to begin a book of their own.

“They say you should write what you know,” Stone said. “By the way, ‘they’ say a lot.”

Stone has a background in video production and a knack for storyboarding. As a social worker with an MSW from FSU and employed by Shands, Johnson knew mental health.

“A year before Ron passed away from

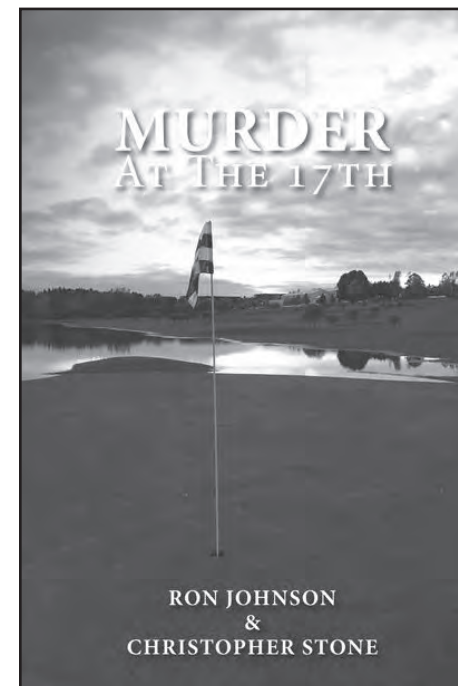
pancreatic cancer in September 2014, I was teaching him the greatest game ever played — golf,” Stone said.

The friends spent the first six months on the driving range and putting green only. Every Saturday morning, they were on Bent Creek’s practice facility for two hours. On one of Johnson’s first rounds playing the course, he scored a birdie, one under par.

“It was a par 4, and after a good tee shot and a 6 iron to the front of the green, he rolled in an 18-footer for birdie,” Stone said. “A remarkable feat unheard of from a beginner.”

It seems the two had a great relationship and brought out the best in one another.

Johnson looked to Stone, a single-digit golfer, and Hiaasen, a syndicated colum-



Stone and Johnson cowrote “Murder At The 17th” about 10 years ago. The book was recently published in print and online as an e-book.



Christopher Stone



Ron Johnson

nist, to form his philosophy.

“...Ron would say, ‘To be the best, you have to emulate the best,’” Stone said. “I think we did alright.”

Murder At The 17th is available on Amazon in both paperback and e-book versions.

For more information, visit www.murderatthe17th.com.

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OBITUARIES

Lisa Adele Smith Rogers
Lisa Adele Smith Rogers passed away 8/23/19 at the age of 61. Oldest daughter



Lisa Adele Smith Rog-

of Edward Jackson and Joanne Smith, Lisa was born 2/9/58 in Pine Bluff, AR and moved with her parents and sister, Lauren, to PVB when she was 2. She is survived by her mother, Joanne Smith; sister, Lauren Braren (Mike); niece, Brooke McNeal (Mark Janikula); nephew, Alex McNeal; and aunt, Mary Haynes (Hot Springs, AR).

Lisa had a talent and passion for photography and spent many years taking landscape and animal photographs, some of which she framed and gave as gifts.

She was married to Stockton Rogers Jr. from 1976-1983.

She attended Fletcher High School, Dental Hygiene School in Jacksonville and University of GA where she earned

her Registered Respiratory Therapist Degree and AA Degree in History. She practiced as a respiratory therapist over many years in Georgia, Mississippi, N. Carolina and Florida.

A private family memorial service will be held at Christ Church in Ponte Vedra Beach. Donations in Lisa’s memory can be made to Jacksonville Humane Society, 8464 Beach Blvd., Jax, FL 32216.

Please sign our online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre
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Arlene Marie Elliott

Arlene Marie Elliott, 82, of Jacksonville, passed away August 29, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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Senior Living Guide



SPECIAL SECTION
SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

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You can't always get what you want

RTomJunior gets his name back

By Amber Lake

There's a lot in a name. Names carry weight — so much so that some are banned, and some are trademarked so that they can't be shared. Names are the last thing to be printed on our graves and the first things to anoint us when we are born. They both identify and label. They tell us who we are.

Some would even say that a name can make something exist, not the other way around.

With RTomJunior Chambers, names are very important. Two names, to be precise. One, his birth name, Robert. Another name, however, was one that he wanted very much to be never used, lest it should happen to make it true. That name was DISABLED. Both were names he detested the day he walked into Jax Legal Aid in June of 2018.

Megan Wall, an attorney in the office, overheard Chambers speaking with the receptionist at the front desk. He had peddled his bike there and was surprisingly neat looking from coming in out of the heat. Chambers is a well-dressed man who speaks slowly, sometimes making the listener wait long enough between sentences to wonder if he was going to continue. He has a slight limp and big smile.

"My first name is the common name 'Robert.'" Chambers said. "It's so common that I don't like it. (When) I attempt to take care of business, Roberts are so common I have difficulties."

Chambers is in the middle of his second attempt to have his name legally changed. Originally, Robert Thomas Chambers, he requested to add the "Junior" to his first name, a mistake that allegedly was supposed to be on his original birth certificate.

"My mother should know (my name), she birthed me," Chambers said. "She said it's supposed to be on there, but she couldn't read that well and it wasn't. My mother calls me Tom Junior."

So, Tom Junior Chambers filled out his application to have his name changed and did. The state added the Junior in his name and sent him a new identification card. Only this time, they didn't get it right either.

Why? RTomJunior. One word. Confusing, yes. But that was the original intention and Chambers intended to honor that. He hated his common first name, Robert. He wanted a new name, one paying homage to his mother's original intention of him going by his middle name, Thomas Junior. A name that suited him and that was original, like him. First



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

RTomJunior Chambers receives help from Megan Wall, who represented him while he went through the process of qualifying for disability.



Photo by Amber Lake

RTomJunior Chambers shows his new driver's license.

name — RTomJunior. One word. Last name, Chambers. What is so difficult to understand about this?

Which is precisely what he was trying to tell the receptionist at Jax Legal Aid that hot day in July when Megan Wall came over to try to assist him (or perhaps relieve the receptionist).

"What I do is a holistic approach to any client situation," Wall said. "Why do

you want to change your name? Sometimes when someone's all irritated about something, it's really not that. It's really something wrong (in their) life."

Chambers truly does want his name changed. Ask him and he will tell you about the phone book being chock full of Robert Chambers. This is a point of contention for him but Chambers himself is more than a legal name. He a man with a

"My mother should know (my name) she birthed me. She said it's supposed to be on there, but she couldn't read that well and it wasn't. My mother calls me Tom Junior."

RTomJunior Chambers,
On one of the reasons he wanted to change his name

sense of humor and an iron will. He is an ex-felon. And, he is also homeless.

It turns out, originally when Chambers filed for a name change, he was accidentally granted one against the state's policy. They don't do name changes for ex-felons and this is probably why he was having such a hard time correcting their mistake. Additionally, when you live in a tent in the woods off state road 16, people tend not to listen to you very much.

How does Social Security fit into your retirement income strategy?



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

It might not be on the calendar, but Aug. 14 is Social Security Day. Since it was enacted on Aug. 14, 1935, Social Security has provided some financial support for millions of Americans during their retirement years. While Social

Security benefits, by themselves, probably aren't enough to enable anyone to retire comfortably, they can be a key part of an overall retirement income strategy – if used wisely.

To help make decisions about Social Security, answer these questions:

When should I start taking my benefits?

You can take Social Security once you reach 62, but if you wait until your full retirement age, which will probably be between 66 and 67, you'll get much bigger monthly checks, and if you wait until 70, you'll get the biggest possible payments. Before deciding when to begin receiving

your benefits, you'll need to weigh a few factors, including your estimated longevity and your other sources of income.

How should I consider potential spousal benefits?

If you are married, or if you're divorced but were married for at least 10 years, you could receive up to half of your spouse's full retirement benefit (offset by your own benefit, and reduced if you claim early). If you outlive your spouse, you could claim survivor benefits, which can provide either your own benefits or 100% of your deceased spouse's, whichever is larger. Consequently, the higher-earning spouse might want to postpone taking benefits for as long as possible to maximize the survivor benefit.

How much can I earn without reducing my Social Security benefits?

If you are younger than your full retirement age and you are receiving Social Security, the Social Security Administration will withhold \$1 from your benefits for each \$2 you earn over a certain threshold (which, in 2019, is \$17,640). For the year

you reach your full retirement age, your benefits could be withheld by \$1 for every \$3 you earn over \$46,920. But once you reach your full retirement age, you can earn as much as you want without your benefits being withheld, although your benefits could still be taxed, depending on your income.

How much of my pre-retirement income will Social Security replace?

Generally speaking, you should expect Social Security to replace slightly more than a third of your pre-retirement income. However, the higher your income during your working years, the lower the replacement value of Social Security will be.

What other sources of retirement income should I develop?

Contribute as much as you can afford to your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. You may want to consult with a financial professional, who can look at your entire retirement income picture and recommend moves to help you achieve the lifestyle you've envisioned for your later years.

Keep in mind that decisions about Social Security filing strategies should always be based on an individual's specific needs and health considerations. For more information, visit the Social Security Administration website at socialsecurity.gov.

One final word: You may have concerns about the stability of Social Security. While no one can predict the future, many potential solutions exist to put the program on more solid footing. Consequently, try to focus on the actions you can control.

Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach - T: 904 285 9898.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

This information is believed to be reliable, but investors should rely on information from the Social Security Administration before making a decision on when to take Social Security benefits. It is general information and not meant to cover all scenarios. Your situation may be different, so be sure to discuss this with the Social Security Administration prior to taking benefits.

Name

Continued from 14

Wall did, however. She listened to his whole story and determined that what he needed was more than a new name. First, he needed to have an income over \$300 a month, which was what he was currently sustaining off. Second, he could use a better tent, or, at least something that wasn't falling apart and letting mosquitos and other "creepy crawlies" in.

"I said, you know what, I see the bigger problem here," she said.

Chambers had been charged with battery more than 20 years earlier and had been living in a tent for the past 10. Directly after his release, he swore off not only alcohol, but women as well. He describes himself as a "happy loner," perfectly content with seclusion in the woods. He isn't content with his station, however, and says he has been applying for jobs the entire time he has been homeless. With 64 years behind him, a record, myriad physical handicaps and no formal education to speak of, he isn't exactly being messaged by recruiters on LinkedIn. That didn't stop him continuing to put "applications all over St. Augustine," however.

Wall describes the following conversation thusly —

"Why can't you find work?"

"My knee collapses on me and I'm always falling on the ground. I can't really remember stuff very well."

"So, you're disabled."

"No."

"If you're not disabled then why can't you find work?"

"Well, I can't really see out of this eye and I can't really hear out of this ear."



Photo by Amber Lake

Megan Wall is an attorney at Jax Legal Aid in St. Augustine.

"So, you're disabled."

"No."

And so on.

At 64 years of age, Chambers was one year shy of qualifying for Medicare. Although, as much as Wall tried, she could not get him to admit to being disabled. She tried regardless. She decided to donate her time to represent him and take him through the legal process of claiming a disability. Even right up to being interviewed at a disability hearing, however, he denied having one. Wall took him to doctor appointments and interviews with a claims representative for Social Security. He showed up to all of the appointments on time but each time, when asked, "Do you have a disability?" Chambers would

say, "no."

"So, I said look, this is a man who's just told you all his impairments and whether those do or do not add up to something you think (is your choice)," Wall said. "There is nothing he can do in the marketplace."

Then, one day, Chambers checked his bank account and found there was \$2,900 of back pay from the federal government. This was more money than he had seen in a long time and it was far more than he expected after going through the disability claims process. It was also a prophetic amount of money, considering he owed exactly \$2669.60 to reinstate his driver's license, which is exactly what he peddled his bike all the way to the DMV off of

U.S. 1 to get. He used the rest to buy a (very) used van, which he parked outside his nephew's house and ran power to a fan that runs while he is sleeping.

"It surprises me how cool my fan keeps me in the van at night," Chambers said. "I don't know why it keeps me that cool. (With the tent) even being as careful as I can, the zippers pop. I don't want to wake up and a creepy crawler in there with me, but I don't worry about them coming into that van."

Chambers gives full credit to Megan Wall for her help, however.

"Now I don't have to worry about the court, the collections or nothing," he said. "It went through so smoothly because I had a lawyer."

"Over here, they run up against the WALL," he added.

Now at 65 years old, Chambers can claim Medicaid, although he stresses that "the government has retired me," not himself. He won't admit to choosing retirement any more than he will a disability, which he says means, "having to depend on other people to survive." Certainly, Chambers doesn't need anything from anyone. He finds happiness in the small things like have a fan at night, but he can certainly live without it. Preference isn't necessity with him — not by a long shot.

That's not to say that he doesn't get what he wants when he has made up his mind. After everything, one of the first places Chambers went in his van was to a local print shop to have a tee shirt made — one that corrected what he couldn't get the state to correct. Emblazoned across the chest in bold print, the shirt says RTom-Junior.

Does something exist because it has a name, or because someone listens?



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Photo by Ryan Wendler

From the beginning of 2019 until June, 100 volunteers worked 2,276 hours and drove 9,957 miles for deliveries.

Grassroots nonprofit tackles senior hunger

Pie in the Sky Community Alliance celebrates 10 years of changing lives through service in St. Johns County

Local nonprofit organization, Pie in the Sky Community Alliance Inc., celebrated its 10th anniversary in August. The organization's mission is to connect seniors with resources and facilitate

long-term solutions that affect the lives of the elderly, the poor, the historically underserved and the disenfranchised

NONPROFIT continues on **Page 23**



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Ponte Vedra startup engineers online portal to rent medical equipment

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Travel can be daunting for those with disabilities.

A Ponte Vedra startup seeks to eliminate some of the obstacles that discourage or even prohibit people with temporary or permanent disabilities from venturing away from home. HandyQuip is a new online marketplace designed to make it easy for anyone to rent medical equipment.

“We’re doing this because we strongly believe everyone should be able to live comfortably and to freely explore the world,” cofounder Stephane Pouso said. “People with disabilities are less likely to travel or visit family and that excludes them from society.”

The idea for HandyQuip was borne out of a personal experience.

“A few years ago, my brother-in-law was graduating from college and wanted to go to Las Vegas to celebrate,” Pouso said. “It was very difficult for him to travel because he was in car accident that caused a spinal cord injury and he is paralyzed from waist down.”

The trip was kind of a milestone for recent graduate Brandon Bonaquist, so Pouso and his wife said they would help him plan the trip. Bonaquist would be flying, and leaving the state, for the first time. Pouso said his brother-in-law was very nervous that something would go wrong. When Pouso’s wife started looking to get medical bed for the hotel, she could not rent a bed.

“There was nothing for us to easily rent bed from another state,” Pouso said.

After extensive time and research, she arranged to have a bed delivered to the hotel just before they arrived in Las Vegas. It was the wrong bed, so Bonaquist could not use it.

The unfortunate scenario revealed to Pouso that people do not have access to medical equipment online and small businesses do not have the resources to create a tech-savvy site to facilitate rentals.

“I quit my job (in 2013) and started to solve the problem,” Pouso said.

Demand is growing for medical equipment, but there are very few resources. According to the National Service Inclusion Project, 24.1 million people in the country live with a severe disability. Pouso said 12 million require medical equipment to live every day. People can also use the site to try equipment before making a purchase.

The website seeks to allow them the flexibility to do whatever they want. The idea is to help people focus on the important things like visiting family, taking a vacation or traveling. The goal was to engineer a site where anyone could easily rent medical equipment like they would rent a hotel room. Pouso worked with a software engineer to design algorithms so users would not be overwhelmed with too many choices and still match people with what they want at a good price.

The medical equipment may serve everyday needs with items like wheelchairs, scooters, walkers or tools to take a bath safely. Other specialty home health equipment may include lift chairs, specialty beds or sleep apnea machines.

The steps to rent equipment at HandyQuip.com are straightforward. Choose what type of equipment is needed, select the rental period dates from a calen-



Cofounder Stephane Pouso (third from right with scissors) cuts the ribbon to launch the innovative website HandyQuip.com during a launch party Aug. 3 at the University of North Florida.



Pouso demonstrates the medical equipment rental website, HandyQuip.com.



ABOVE: Pouso's brother-in-law, Brandon Bonaquist, tried to rent medical equipment for a graduation trip to Las Vegas, but the wrong bed was delivered.

dar, and type in the location. “Quinn,” assists renters through the process to match equipment with the user who selects desired features.

For now, delivery is available throughout Northeast Florida, from Jacksonville to Ponte Vedra and Nocatee. HandyQuip also seeks to be a resource for local tourism and hospitality providers in Ponte Vedra, such as resorts, hotels, conference centers and other short-term rental hosts. It's a free tool that can be shared with guests to make their experience more comfortable, inclusive and enjoyable.

Ultimately, HandyQuip wants to make medical equipment rental available worldwide.

“For many people medical equipment is a necessity; it is vital in their life,” he said.

For more information, visit www.HandyQuip.com.



LEFT: Pouso, CEO of HandyQuip Inc. poses with Mark Dawkins, Dean, Coggin School of Business at the University of North Florida during the Aug. 3 launch party.

Chamber of Commerce hosts ribbon-cutting for new assisted living facility

By Amber Lake

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting from 10 a.m. to noon Aug. 24 for the grand opening of the Benton House, a new assisted living facility located in St. northwest St. Johns County.

The new facility features a variety of apartment sizes, styles and views for short term stays, residents and individuals needing memory care.

Dane Cates, Vice President of Development said that one of the main draws of Benton house is what sets it apart from other assisted living facilities.

“We still hold to the single-story design, which we feel is very attractive to seniors, especially when they get to a certain age and they need additional help with day to day life,” Cates said.

Benton House’s single-story design not only makes it easier on residents that have limited mobility, but allows easier access to communal areas and is safer in the event of an evacuation.

“We have no elevators, no steps,” Cates said. “Everybody has an opportunity to have a porch or screen porch private patio by the courtyard. Everyone is on the same level as all the common areas, including dining and beauty shop. It’s really kind of boutique relative to the (other) facilities.”

Representative Cyndi Stevenson attended to ribbon cutting event for the new facility.

“In 1980, St, Johns County’s population was calculated by the U.S. Census Bureau at 51,000 people,” said Chamber president, Isabelle Renault. “The most recent census data from 2018 states that



Photos by Susan Griffin

Representative Cyndi Stevenson with Isabelle Renault, President/CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

our population is grown to more than 250,000 people and there is not end in sight. Not only is the county growing at an incredible pace, we believe that the fastest growing segment of that population in the next 15 years will be the senior population over the age of 75.”

Benton House offers not only assisted living, but memory care and an adult day program as well. The new location will

be one of 23 across the Southeast United States and will be one of three facilities located in Florida. Staff conducted guided tours of the facility every 15 minutes during the open house.

Benton House St. Johns is located at 115 Benton Lane off County Road 210 West at St. Johns Parkway. For more information, visit bentonhouse.com/senior-living-augustine-fl.



Benton House features a salon and barber shop on property.



The Julington Creek one-bedroom model.



The Switzerland corner deluxe patio model.



Refreshments were served from Benton House’s café at the ribbon cutting event.

Cypress Village resident celebrates 105th birthday

Continuing Care Retirement Community resident, Elizabeth Kurtz celebrated her 105th birthday among friends at Cypress Village on June 26. Kurtz moved to the retirement community when she and her husband purchased their house over a decade ago. She has since transitioned through the various levels of care provided by Cypress Village.

“The CCRC model offers residents like Elizabeth to live an independent lifestyle for as long as possible,” Executive Director, Ty Morgan said. “If or when they need more care, they can receive proper care while remaining in a familiar community among friends and caretakers.”

Kurtz enjoyed sharing birthday cake and ice

cream with longtime friend and fellow resident, Rhoda Boutin. They became good friends once Boutin moved to the retirement community and have remained such despite now living in separate levels of care.

Morgan believes this is what makes the continuing care continuum successful.

“Residents are able to cultivate relationships that grow and flourish even as they transition to higher levels of care,” Morgan said. “As a result, residents experience longer and more fulfilling lives.”

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



Elizabeth Kurtz (left) celebrates monumental 105th birthday with longtime friend, and fellow Cypress Village resident, Rhoda Boutin (right).



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COUNCIL ON AGING RIVER HOUSE CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

All programs are held at River House, 179 Marine St., St. Augustine, FL 32084. For reservations and information about these and other ongoing classes, visit www.coasjc.org/river-house or call (904) 209-3655.

NEW! Aromatherapy Workshop

10-11:30 a.m., Tuesdays, Oct. 22 and 29, and Nov. 5 and 12. Cost is \$35 for River House members and \$40 for nonmembers. Learn all about aromatherapy at this new four-week course. Blend and build your own custom essential oil scent and learn how aromatherapy can enhance wellness. All supplies included. Space is limited. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations.

NEW! American Sign Language

2-3 p.m., Tuesdays Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Cost is \$30 for River House members and \$35 for nonmembers. Learn to converse in basic American Sign Language and receive an introduction to Deaf Culture at this six-week course. Space is limited. For reservations, call (904) 209-3655.

NEW Sessions! French and Spanish Language

Discover France and the French Language or Spanish language and culture in these engaging six-week courses. French Level 1 and Conversational French begin Wednesday Sept. 25; Spanish Levels 1, 2 and 3 (Conversational) begin Thursday Sept. 26. Cost is \$30 for River House Members and \$35 for nonmembers. Space is limited. Call (904) 209-3655 for more information and reservations.

Tech Tuesdays for iPhone & iPad

1-2 p.m., Tuesdays beginning Oct. 1. Cost is \$50 for River House members and \$60 for nonmembers. Join this seven-week course that focuses on all aspects of iPhone and iPad features and usage with instructor Kai Long. Students must bring their own iPhone/iPad. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations.



Photo courtesy of River House

River House

Continued from 20

NEW Sessions! Genealogy

2-3 p.m., Wednesdays, the six-week course begins Oct. 2. Cost is \$30 for River House members and \$35 for nonmembers. Begin the journey into researching your family's history and learn tips and tricks to enable you to navigate the many branches of your family tree. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations.

NEW! Portrait Drawing Class

10 a.m.-noon, Thursdays Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and

31. Cost is \$45 for River House members and \$55 for nonmembers. Discover how you can draw a portrait by applying a simple method the masters used. Beginning artists are encouraged to bring a picture to work from with the supplies listed. Space is limited. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations and supply list.

NEW! Greeting Card Creations

2:30-4 p.m., Monday, Oct. 28. Cost is \$12 for River House members and \$15 for nonmembers. Learn the basic techniques to make greeting cards for every occasion. All supplies needed are included. Call (904) 209-3655 for reservations.

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ADLs, IADLs and long-term care policies



Seth Movsovitz
Guest Columnist

There is a lot of information in the media recently regarding Long Term Care Insurance Policies. There is news about rising premiums and adjusted benefits. If you or a loved one have an LTC Policy, you should contact your agent or the carrier and have them explain in detail any or all changes.

One thing is certain, every policy contains language centered around Activities of Daily Living and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living. Basically, these are things that we do in our everyday lives that help contribute to our overall level of independence.

ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING

Also known as ADLs, they are essentials necessary to the dignity and physical and emotional well-being of our elderly parents is to ensure their daily living re-

quirements are met effectively. The basic ADL activities are typically listed as:

- Toilet hygiene

This includes getting to the toilet, self-cleaning and getting up from the toilet. If they have impaired mobility and health issues that make it difficult or impossible for them to take care of these ADLs independently then you need to find them the appropriate help. Whether it's providing care (you or someone else who is qualified) or investing in the proper equipment and accessories to help them continue doing daily tasks independently, be aware that there are many choices and options available.

- Ambulation, movement without assistance

This includes moving while performing activities, getting in and out of bed and getting in and out of a chair.

- Dressing

- Bathing or Showering

- Personal Hygiene

Activities include brushing or styling hair, shaving and other grooming activities.

- Ability to feed oneself

If they have impaired mobility and health issues that make it difficult or impossible for them to take care of these ADLs independently then you need to find them the appropriate help. Whether it's providing care (you or someone else who is qualified) or investing in the proper equipment and accessories to help them continue doing daily tasks independently, be aware that there are many choices and options available.

INSTRUMENTAL ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING

Also known as IADLs, these other types of daily living activities are not necessarily fundamental, but related to independent functioning. IADLs most often refer to the following types of activities with long-term care:

- Cooking and preparing meals

- Cleaning and maintaining the home

- Shopping and buying necessities

- Running errands

- Managing money and paying bills

- Speaking or communicating on the phone or through other devices

- Taking prescribed medications

Again, it's important to the overall wellbeing of elderly parents that their IADLs are taken care of effectively and consistently. If there are obstacles or difficulties with doing these tasks alone, there is help. Whether it's you, other siblings, relatives or friends that help out, or even professional caregivers, arranging help is possible. Other sources of help include technological devices that can provide assistance or even various community services geared at helping seniors.

It's very important to continually monitor your loved one's ability to perform both ADLs and IADLs.

Also, if they do have a Long Term Care Policy, these items will dictate if they qualify for benefits.

Seth Movsovitz is the owner of Ponte Vedra Home Care, a private duty home care agency. He has over 16 years of experience in the home care industry and is a PAC (Positive Approach to Care/Teepa Snow)-certified dementia trainer. Visit <https://pvhomecare.com/> for more information.



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

5 creative ways to show grandparents and seniors how much they're appreciated

Grandparents and seniors can share wisdom and a lifetime of experience with the young people in their lives. Expressing gratitude for such lessons is a great way to show the seniors in your life, whether it's a grandparent, mentor or family friend, how much they're appreciated.

Some seniors live alone, while others may be living with their adult children and grandchildren, offering care and support to help make the household function. Whether grandparents, aunts and uncles or older friends live close by or elsewhere, there are many ways for their loved ones to show them how much they're appreciated.

1. Become pen pals. Seniors may have limited mobility or opportunities to get out of the house. Receiving mail is one way to connect with the outside world. Regularly send letters to a grandparent or other senior, sharing tales of daily life and key moments that will bring them joy. Chances are they'll return the favor with a letter of their own.

2. Explore technology together. Younger generations can introduce seniors to available technology that can bring them closer. This may include digital assistants that enable them to share videos, tablets to send email or access social media, mobile phones for calling and texting, and anything else families can customize to their needs.

3. Offer companionship. Spending time with younger generations can motivate seniors to stay active and engaged.

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Del Webb Ponte Vedra makes Best 55+ Active Adult Communities list

For the sixth consecutive year, 55places.com, the country's number one resource for anyone seeking information about age-restricted and active lifestyle communities, has named its 55 Best 55+ Active Adult Communities of 2019. Analyzing a variety of factors, including amenity types, lifestyle options, price range, location, resident reviews, and internal sales data, the final results rank an appealing range of options for prospective homebuyers. Earning the top spot this year is On Top of the World, a popular enclave in Ocala, Florida.

This is not the first time On Top of the World has won an award from the company, not even the first time this year. The age-restricted neighborhood was also named 55places' Most Popular and Best-Selling Community of 2019, and

has been included in nearly every ranking produced by the website in the past six years.

Locally, Del Webb Ponte Vedra ranked seventh in the nation for 2019.

"While personal needs and requirements will vary for each active adult, we've learned that at the core, affordability, attractive amenities, and social opportunities are the most important factors when searching for a new home in an age-restricted community," Danny Goodman, COO of 55places.com, said. "On Top of the World offers its residents all of that and more, which is why it remains a popular choice. With a Central Florida location, finely-built homes available for reasonable prices, and nearly 200 organized clubs, it's easy to see why so many love to call this place home."

On Top of the World is followed by 54 other leading communities — 26 of which were constructed by Del Webb, a well-respected home builder in the 55+ category. View 55places' top 10 below.

1. On Top of the World — Ocala, Florida
2. Sun City Texas — Georgetown, Texas
3. Sun City Hilton Head — Bluffton, South Carolina
4. Sun City Anthem — Henderson, Nevada
5. Solivita — Kissimmee, Florida
6. Pelican Preserve — Fort Myers, Florida
7. **Del Webb Ponte Vedra — Ponte Vedra, Florida**
8. Sun City West — Sun City West, Florida
9. Province — Maricopa, Arizona
10. Latitude Margaritaville — Daytona Beach, Florida

Nonprofit

Continued from 17

people of our community. During the last 10 years, Pie in the Sky has helped thousands of people throughout St. Johns County.

"When I started Pie in the Sky back in August of 2009, we were intent on 'filling the cracks' in services. Now, we have made fighting senior hunger our primary goal because no bigger abyss exists in our community," Malea Guiriba, founder and executive director said. "There are more than 6,000 seniors in our community who worry about where their next meal is coming from. It's not about dropping the veggies off on the doorstep. It's about filling the hunger of the heart through building relationships and letting them know that someone cares about them."

Currently, Pie in the Sky is feeding 465 seniors every month. Every two weeks, seniors receive purchased fresh produce and donated goods from KeHe and Waste Not Want Not. As of June 2019, Pie had delivered 38,279 pounds of purchased fresh produce and 12,089 pounds of donated food. One hundred volunteers worked 2,276 hours and driven 9,957 miles for deliveries. It only costs Pie in the Sky \$262.50 to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to sponsor a senior for one year.

Volunteer opportunities include bagging fresh produce and other grocery items, helping organize the warehouse, and delivering to seniors on the route. Call (904) 382-9939 to learn more.

Pie in the Sky will host the Peace in the Park event on International Day of Peace from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, at Eddie Vickers Park, 399 Riberia Street in St. Augustine. This event is free and open to the public. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation.

Pie in the Sky is located at 134 Riberia Street, Unit 4 in St. Augustine. For more information, visit pieintheskystjohns.org. Donations are accepted online at pieintheskystjohns.org/donate. Follow on Facebook @pyinthesky and Instagram @pieintheskystjohns and join the newsletter by emailing pieintheskynewsletter@gmail.com.



hoto by Ryan Wendler

Volunteer opportunities include bagging fresh produce and other grocery items, helping organize the warehouse and delivering to seniors on the route.



ABOVE: As of June 2019, Pie had delivered 38,279 pounds of purchased fresh produce and 12,089 pounds of donated food.

Photo by Ryan Wendler

LEFT: Malea Guiriba is Pie in the Sky founder and executive director.

Photo by Brian Miller

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Appreciation

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Have games and activities at the ready or simply provide a listening ear.

4. Shop and run errands. Help aging loved ones perform the tasks that they may not be able to tackle on their own. This can include picking up groceries or prescriptions or taking them to appointments. Simple work around the house, like doing laundry or light clean-up, also can be a big help.

5. Start a hobby together. Develop a hobby that seniors and young people can enjoy together. Watching classic movies, painting ceramics, going to sporting events, or gardening are just a few of the many hobbies that seniors can enjoy with their young loved ones.

There are many ways to bridge the generation gap and spend meaningful time with aging loved ones.

Send us your senior news!

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Hospice to host Caregiver workshop Sept. 21

Community Hospice & Palliative Care will host a free and informative workshop for caregivers to discuss common struggles and discover resources that are available to help caregivers.

Helpful resources and organizations will be on site to answer questions and offer information about services to assist those caring for seniors.

This event will take place from

8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Stephen R. Chapman Family Community Campus. The campus is located at 1335 U.S. Highway 1 South in St. Augustine.



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Seniors embrace the digital world

Studies show how technology improves cognitive function in older adults

By Amber Lake

Cynthia floats to the middle of the lane and slowly aligns her body to be just shy of the center pin. She cocks her arm back and hurls the ball, which connects perfectly with her aim and causes a mass cataclysm of pins knocking and tumbling down. A strike.

Cynthia, herself explodes. “YES!” she screams, “STRIKE!”

Her teammates congratulate her, excited for her accomplishment. The rest of the Senior Center is very quiet, with the shuffling of feet heard only between the crash of pins and excitement.

No, there is not a bowling alley in the back room of THE PLAYERS Senior Center. There is only a tiny white box and a television screen to host the tournament for National Senior League Wii Bowling Championship. The seniors at the center call themselves the COA Jaguars and are fierce contenders for the title. They’ve won first place in the nation in the past and their team captain, Betty Kraft, has recently bowled a perfect game.

Secondary to having fun, it turns out seniors who play digital games are also improving their brain function.

The axiom “video games will rot your brain,” is proving to be inversely correlated as new studies on the impact of games are concluding a beneficial effect on cognition. The trend toward implementing the games in education has led a few researchers to also look at its influence on memory decline.

As it turns out, grandma isn’t a “noob” and she isn’t alone.

A 2013 study published in “Computers in Human Behavior” showed that not only are seniors improving their emotional health with digital games, but they’re playing with their friends surprising numbers. The survey revealed that almost a third of seniors reported on using video games at least once a week, with 17% playing them every day.

Former Ponte Vedra resident, Dennis Berkholtz, founded the NSL tournament in 2009. Today he lives in Atlanta and donates his time to coordinating the annual tournament which has almost 300 teams from 80 different communities across the United States. He originally got the idea when his parents were staying at an assisted living facility.

“I was amazed at that time that the senior community did so little for their residents either physically or mentally,” he said.

Berkholtz was playing the original Wii



Photos by Amber Lake

The team at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center competes in this year’s National Senior League tournament.



Tips for managing summer dry eye



Rajesh Shetty, M.D.
Florida Eye Specialist

During the long days of summer, we have plenty of time to get outside, enjoy the sunshine and play in the water. Unfortunately, symptoms of dry eye — including stinging, itching, aching and blurred vision — can make us see summer in a different light. A recent report published in “The Ocular Surface” Journal suggests that up to half of the adult population is affected by dry eye. This figure can rise even

higher during summer months when exposure to sunlight, spending more time outdoors, dehydration and swimming in the ocean or pools can exacerbate symptoms of dry eye and make it harder to manage.

Don't let dry eye throw shade on your summer plans. By reviewing the causes, symptoms and treatment options for dry eye, you can break the cycle of eye irritation, feel better and take control of your eye health.

CAUSES OF DRY EYE

Dry eye occurs when the eyes produce poor-quality tears or not enough tears. While summertime activities can worsen dry eye symptoms, there are many potential underlying causes. For some, certain medications like antihistamines, birth control pills and nasal decongestants can

cause a lack of tear production, which results in dry and irritated eyes. For others, environmental factors can cause dry eye, as can wearing the wrong type of contact lens. Some sufferers experience dry eye because of their digital device viewing habits.

SYMPTOMS AND EFFECTS OF DRY EYES

Symptoms of dry eye usually affect both eyes. They include blurred vision, stinging, burning or scratching sensations in the eyes, stringy mucus found in or near the eyes, eye redness, eye fatigue, the sensation of having grit in the eyes and contact lens intolerance. Wearing contact lenses or performing an activity that requires prolonged visual effort (like reading or working on a computer) often worsens these symptoms.

People who suffer from dry eye are more susceptible to eye infections. And, if untreated, the condition causes ulcers and scars on the cornea, and can rarely result in a permanent, partial loss of vision.

TIPS FOR PREVENTING DRY EYE IN SUMMER MONTHS

There are a few things to be mindful of while managing dry eye symptoms in the summer. Wear sunglasses with UV protection to avoid excessive sun exposure. Goggles or snorkel masks can block irritants from the pool or ocean. Be sure to wash your face of sweat and sunscreen. And, keep a healthy distance from smoke caused by camp-

fires and cookouts, which is harmful to your eyes.

All year-round, you can use store-bought, preservative-free hydrating eye drops to help keep the symptoms of dry eye at bay. However, for those who still experience symptoms after using store-bought or medicated eye drops, a visit to an eye doctor may be needed to determine the specific cause of the problem and viable treatment options.

DRY EYE TREATMENT

Getting the right treatment is key to stopping the progress of dry eye condition. Treatment options include artificial tears, gels, eye drops or plugs inserted in the tear ducts. A newer treatment offered at the Florida Eye Specialists Dry Eye Center is LipiFlow Thermal Pulsation, which uses warm temperature and gentle massaging to open blocked glands.

Dry eye is a chronic condition that is often permanent, but if treated, relief is in sight. Make an appointment with a medical professional to determine the cause of your dry eye and come up with a custom-tailored plan of treatment to suit your needs and lifestyle.

Rajesh Shetty, M.D., is a Ponte Vedra resident, board-certified, double fellowship-trained ophthalmologist and CEO of Florida Eye Specialists. For more information about Dr. Shetty and dry eye treatment options, visit FloridaEyeSpecialists.com.

Technology

Continued from 26

console with friends, which had just come out three years earlier. He immediately noticed the bowling game's simple user setup and low impact play, making it the perfect transition game for those unfamiliar with video game consoles like seniors.

Recently, Berkholtz said he is getting more individuals with dementia participating. In fact, he recently visited a facility with two teams consisting solely of dementia patients.

“For whatever reason, maybe they bowled in their younger years, but they recognize what they are doing,” he said. “It gets them up and out and all they got to do is press that button and laugh when the ball goes somewhere.”

A 2017 study by the U.S. National Institutes of Health indicated that it was possible video games could cut the risk of dementia by 30%. Another study published just last year by Oxford University suggested that neurological decay could even be slowed down by using them.

At the Palms at Ponte Vedra retirement community, a team with two players from MorningSide, a memory care facility, play Wii bowling every day they can get out of bed. Staff encourages them and when they hit strikes, everyone cheers. Resident Estelle Barfield plays from her chair, flicking her wrist to send slow balls precisely aimed like a master marksman at spares, which she calls “her specialty.”

Exercise alone doesn't account for the cognitive improvement the study indicated. There is speculation that the games' ability to improve motor skills, develop a technique and promote social interaction help seniors create a buffer for dementia.

Primarily, however, social interaction has long been known to be a key element in making seniors happier and healthier over time.

Asking any senior player why they enjoy the game and what keeps them coming back to play, the usual answer

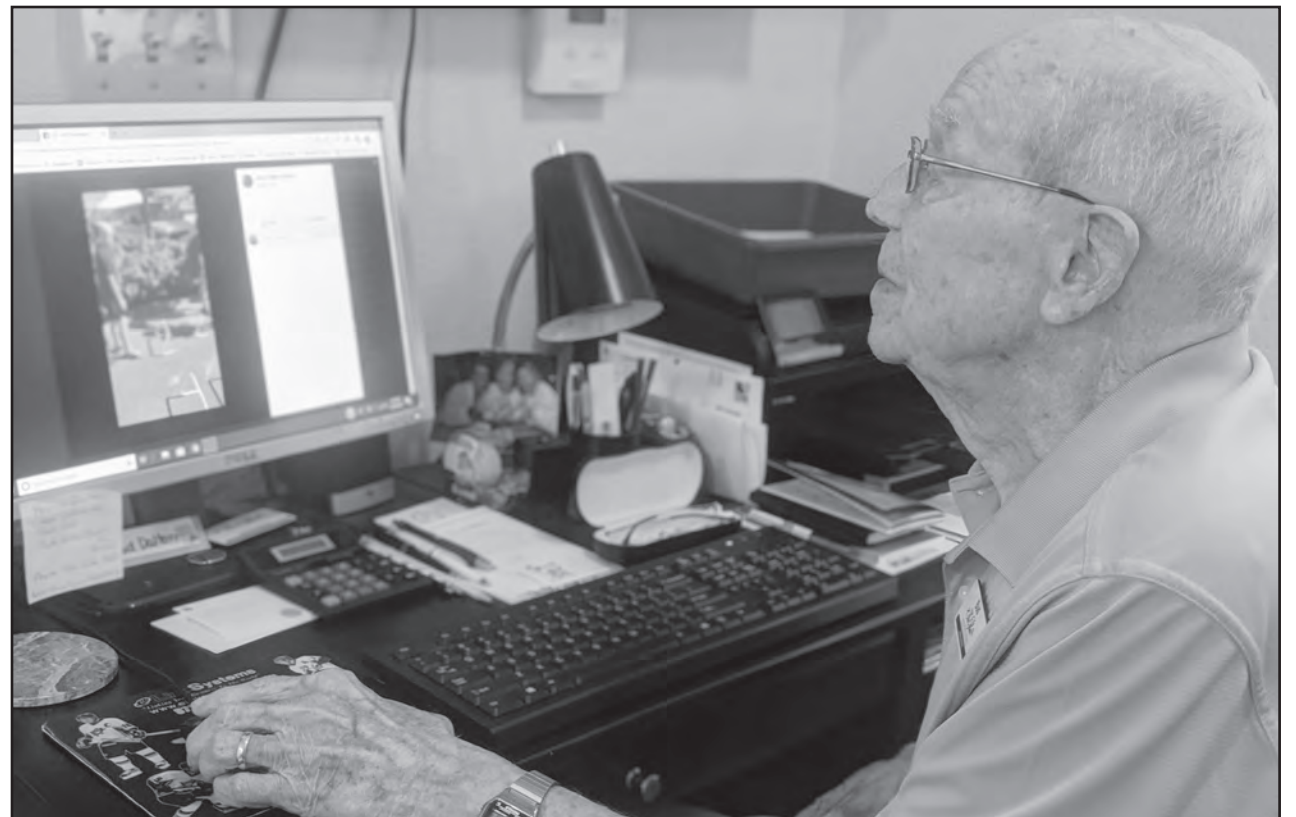


Photo by Amber Lake

The Palms resident Bud Dalton checks Facebook for updates about his family.

is “the friendships.” The game's ability to bring people together creates an environment of comradery that mimics actual sports while also being low impact for aging adults. Wii bowling isn't the only technology facilities like the Palms are using, however. In addition, they provide iPads with games for seniors with failing eyesight and encourage computer literacy among members wanting to connect with their family over the web. It's a skill that not only encourages learning outside of their comfort zone but promotes an easy way to socialize from their homes.

Resident Bud Dalton has a Windows desktop computer set up in his living quarters. He likes it because, “you can check out things on google and know just about any-

thing.” Another reason is to stay connected to his family, which he is on Facebook for. He has 10 grandkids and four great-grandkids, so he has his plate full. He likes watching videos of them on his feed but complains that since he “hooked up” with people outside his family, he is “loaded with crud” on his news feed. He is still working out the kinks of being connected.

“It's unbelievable the stuff I got,” Dalton said. “I got some people on here that I just don't know anything about.”

Recently, however, he figured out how to “slumber” people (snooze) so he is making progress with getting back to what's important — his family.

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Business Weekly

PAGE 29 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

A loss is not always a loss,
and gain is not always
a gain in finances

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Kelly Bost, Melissa Bushong and Felicia Cox attended the fourth annual Journey Around the Spa at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club Aug. 22.

Ponte Vedra Inn & Club hosts Journey Around the Spa

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club hosted the fourth annual Journey Around the Spa on Thursday evening, Aug. 22.

An exclusive passport recorded the journey with a stamp at each vendor visited. Vendors offered discounts and sample treatments to entice travelers. A passport stamped by all of the vendors meant the traveler was eligible to win a spa gift basket valued at more than \$1,000.

Wine and hors d'oeuvres were served as passport holders visited vendor booths including Alastin, Obagi, Dr. Dennis Gross, Zenta and more.



Travelers were treated to hors d'oeuvres as they journeyed around the spa to fill their passports with stamps for a chance to win a spa gift basket.



ABOVE: The Scott Collection was on display during Journey Around the Spa.



LEFT: Michele Segars and Cyndi King pick up a passport to begin their Journey Around the Spa.

Photos by Susan Griffin

Saying bye, bye to stretch IRAs?



Ric Schilling
Columnist

As you may know, Congress passed, and the President signed, a new tax law near the end of 2017 that changed many provisions of the tax code for individuals and businesses. While many people and businesses have benefitted from the changes, they came at a cost — the annual budget deficit of the Federal government has risen from about \$500 billion on average to about \$1 trillion on average. Some of the increase has been offset by higher tax revenues resulting from increased employment, greater business profits and tariffs on imported goods. However, there is a concern inside the beltway that \$1 trillion-plus annual deficits cannot continue without wrecking the economy.

Enter the SECURE Act. SECURE stands for Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019.

Wow, quite a mouthful. Basically, this proposed legislation — it has NOT passed yet — would (a) delay when required minimum distributions would need to be taken from IRA accounts,

(b) provide more flexibility in handling retirement funds and, hopefully, (c) provide some greater comfort to those entering retirement. Please understand that all the proposed provisions of the Act are still being negotiated.

However, there are also provisions intended to increase tax revenues. One provision that appears to have widespread support is the abolishment of the “stretch IRA.” As a reminder, there are presently two distribution methods which can be used by non-spousal beneficiaries of an IRA account — one is to cash it out within five years of the year of death of the IRA owner and the second is to stretch the distributions from the IRA over the lifetimes of the non-spousal beneficiaries. The latter approach is often used as a tax-favorable distribution/estate planning strategy.

The SECURE Act would replace the stretch strategy with a 10-year mandatory payout for essentially all non-spousal beneficiaries, thus effectively destroying the estate planning strategies that many people have put in place regarding their

pre-tax accounts. There are a variety of exceptions to the new rule which may exist, but my take on it is that the planning we’ve done to minimize taxes on these accounts will largely be eradicated.

What can you do if this act becomes law?

Assuming you have traditional IRA accounts that are unlikely to be spent during your lifetime, you need to rethink how you pass these assets. If you are contem-

Chamber After Hours hits the Beach Club

The St. Johns County Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chamber After Hours event was hosted at the Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, Aug. 21.

Members and guests celebrated the exclusive Beach Club and networked while enjoying beverages and delicious bites. The Plantation's private Beach Club is a space for members to relax and watch the waves break or race the waves, splash around in the Junior Olympic-size pool or hang upside down on the jungle gym with the kids.

Cook a meal on one of the grills or choose to order from the chef's menu. There are poolside lounges, all with an ocean view. The Beach Club is located at 1111 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.



ABOVE: Sandy Kavanaugh, Rob Schlingmann and Ashley Folladori address members and guests at the Chamber After Hours event at the Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach Aug. 21.

LEFT: Trudy Toche and Lucia Miller welcome members and guests to the Beach Club.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Toni Boudreux-Godwin, Gloris Dongara and Carri McGregor strike a pose at the Beach Club.

Karen Everett and Carol Saviak raise a glass at the PVBD Chamber After Hours event.

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When it comes to money, sometimes less is more



Harry Pappas
Columnist

I must reluctantly admit that when I sat down to write this column, I was not putting my pen to paper with you, the reader, in mind. Instead, I was writing for me. Since I am a work in progress, I need to hear the following

critical message repeatedly so that I internalize it, and most importantly apply the teachings to my life. Okay, now that my shameful disclaimer is out of the way, let's roll! Which is more harmful: gain or loss? What a silly question, is it not? To most folks, my inquiry appears insane. How could someone find more harm in acquiring something compared to losing the same thing? For example, when we talk about money, is it not always better to have more money than less money? There is ample evidence that demonstrates that the more money we have does not equate to more happiness and contentment. In fact, just the opposite regularly occurs; the more money we have the more problems we encounter and the result is discontentment and unhappiness.

To the contrary, many studies conclude that those who have less money or who have suffered a significant loss of their wealth, in the end, are much happier! On the surface, the notion that less is better appears ludicrous, but I am a living example of why it is not. I know the power of $< = >$ or stated perhaps more simply, less equals more. Until I surrendered to the so-called "rat race," which Oxford Dictionary defines as "A way of life in which people are caught up in a fiercely competitive struggle for wealth or power; an exhausting, usually competitive routine," I had simple tastes.

I was easily satisfied with the best and I wanted it now. I was never ever satisfied and always looked at situations from a pessimistic point of view. One person described me as having a Teflon view to the positive while having a Velcro outlook to negativity. Nevertheless, more, more, and more was my mantra. The "wanting more" disease got a hold of me and would not let go.

For as long as I can remember, I always had this annoying littler bugger in my ear whispering, "What's next, Harry? You certainly cannot be satisfied with what you just accomplished. You are better than that. Stay in beast mode. Don't be content, charge on!"

This "there" is better than "here" mindset reminds me of one of my favorite quotes (author unknown), "One day you'll be dreaming of something you have now!" Oh my...how true!

A quote in one of author Mark Manson's books was spot on regarding the notion of $< = >$ (less equal more), "Always wanting more causes you to become overly attached to the superficial and fake, to dedicate your life to chasing a mirage of happiness and satisfaction." I believe from the depth of my being that if we want to be truly happy; we must be appreciative and be grateful for who we are and what we have. Although I know, a simple and uncomplicated life arguably brings more happiness and contentment; for many of us, our egos often get in the way. It constantly tells us that a better life is built on the foundation of more is better, as in be more, buy more, own more, make more, serve more, etc., all while we work ourselves into the ground at the sacrifice of our mental and physical health.

PAPPAS continues on Page 32

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Schilling

Continued from 29

plating converting traditional IRA accounts to Roth IRA accounts, you may also want to reconsider as Roths will be treated under the Act using the same 10-year distribution schedule (no tax effect but the earnings on Roth funds, once distributed, are taxable). Finally, using trusts, including IRA trusts, to handle these funds may be less advantageous under the provisions of the Act. One strategy continues to be life insurance —

buying a life insurance policy on the IRA owner using annual distributions from the IRA. The death benefits paid by the policy are income tax free, although earning on the funds, once received, are taxable.

As is always the case, each situation must be studied in the context of whatever ultimately passes Congress and gets signed into law. I recommend that you track what happens to this proposal and, if something passes, contact your financial advisor or estate planning attorney to determine what changes might be appropriate in your estate plan. Remember that we cannot

change what Congress might do, but we certainly can change our plans based on new circumstances. Stay tuned.

Frederic “Ric” Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, Florida. Ric is president and founder of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on Senior Issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the

Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Ric Schilling is a Certified Financial Fiduciary (CFF). You may contact Ric at 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: www.seniorguardian.com

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Pappas

Continued from 31

Why do so many of us fools try to succeed at this futile journey of more is better? Is it because we want to keep up with the Joneses or the fame and recognition that come with so-called success or perhaps it is due to the almighty buck. Speaking of the greenback, Jen Sincero, in her engaging book, “You Are a Badass at Making Money: Master the Mindset of Wealth,” reminds us of the incredible influence money has on us when she said, “We love money, hate money, obsess over money, ignore money, resent money, hoard money, crave money, and bad-mouth money. Money is rife with so much desire and shame and weirdness it’s a wonder we can utter the word above a

whisper, let alone go out and joyfully rake it in.”

I will admit it and I am not ashamed to say it aloud, I love money. Perhaps you do, too. Nevertheless, as I am sure you will agree, money is a double-edged sword. In other words, the fire that fuels also consumes. In the end, would life not be incredibly joyful if we did not have envy, resentment, stayed cheerful in spite of our troubles, and to be faithfully grateful for what we have instead of focusing on what we do not have? As I continue to work on my shortcomings, I have been intensely practicing presence, acceptance, surrender, and letting go and letting God. How about you? This is Harry Pappas Jr., and I approve this message!

Harry Pappas Jr. CFP Managing director-investments; Master of Science Degree Personal Financial Planning; Certified Estate

& Trust Specialist; Certified Divorce Financial Analyst

Pappas Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, 818 North Highway A1A, Ste 200, Ponte Vedra, FL 32082; 904-273-7955; harry.pappas@wellsfargoadvisors.com.

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Marty Stuart celebrates 20th anniversary of The Pilgrim Live at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

On Thursday, Oct. 10, the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall welcomes the return of country music torchbearer Marty Stuart as he celebrates the 20th anniversary of his iconic album *The Pilgrim*. While he's too gracious to admit it himself, the Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter and musician is living, breathing country music history. Join Marty Stuart as he shares through story and song his remarkable life.

"The Pilgrim is a fabulous journey," Johnny Cash said.

"This album proves Marty Stuart is the keeper of the hillbilly flame," Emmylou Harris said.

Marty Stuart is a five time Grammy-winner, platinum recording artist, Lifetime Achievement Award recipient from the Americana Music Association, Grand Ole Opry star, country music archivist, photographer, musician, and songwriter. Since starting out singing gospel as a child, Stuart has spent over four decades celebrating American roots music.

The Pilgrim is based on a true story of a

man from Marty Stuart's hometown, named Norman, and his relationship with Rita, the town's beauty queen. An Opera of sorts, or as Stuart calls it, an "opry," *The Pilgrim* related the story of a wandering man with a broken heart, and whose only sin was falling in love with a woman who he didn't know was already married. Marty plays the role of the Pilgrim and the album features many country/bluegrass legends as guest stars including Johnny Cash, George Jones, Ralph Stanley, Emmylou Harris, Earl Scruggs and Pam Tillis.

The live performance will consist of songs from *The Pilgrim* and an interactive journey of the making of the album and Marty's career. Special VIP and Meet and Greet packages are available.

Reserved seated tickets for Marty Stuart's Pilgrim Show are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and The Amp St. Augustine Box Offices, ticketmaster.com and at all Ticketmaster outlets. Ticket prices range from \$68.50 to \$199 for a top-tier VIP package. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.



Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Past Legends join with this year's honorees. Front row (left to right): Sam Veal (2018), Sherri Anthony (2019), Felicia Rhoden (2019), Jimmy Stockton (2018), Barbara Lynn (2016), The Honorable Elaine Brown (2018), The Honorable Dick Brown (2018) Back row (left to right): Dr. Bill Lynch (2014), Dr. John Tanner (2019), Captain George Strate (2016), Kathy Johansen Marvin (2019), Reverend Don Lynn (2016) Not pictured is Bernie Blue who was traveling with the Nease track team at the time of the event.



EMMA announces season concert lineup

EMMA Concert Association recently announced the schedule for the EMMA Concert Series' 41st season in the Oldest City. EMMA is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that features high-quality music and dance performances such as the Gainesville Orchestra and Dance Alive National Ballet at Flagler College's Lewis Auditorium.

The organization's original name was Emil Maestre Music Association. Started in 1979 by a small group of music lovers, among them Frieda Bringmann and Irene and Peter Allemano, the organization was named after famous Spanish cellist, Emil Maestre, who retired to St. Augustine. EMMA was incorporated in September of the same year. Since then, EMMA has committed to 41 years of offering quality music and dance performances.

EMMA continues on Page 34

Beach Legends Gala set for September

The Beaches Museum will host its 39th Beach Legends gala at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20, at TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse. The fun event includes a cocktail hour, a seated dinner, and silent and live auctions. Proceeds will benefit educational programs and operational needs of the Beaches Museum.

Recognizing that tomorrow's history is being made today, the highlight of the evening will be the annual awards presentation honoring well-known, contemporary individuals. These Legends have made, and are making, significant contributions to the ongoing history

of Mayport, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach and Palm Valley.

The advanced single admission ticket prices are \$150 per person and increase to \$175 on Sept. 9.

A reserved table includes 10 seats, all together, at one table. This is not a sponsorship level. A reserved table is \$1,500.

To purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/beacheslegends2019.

For additional sponsorship and auction information, email Chris Hoffman at director@beachmuseum.org or by call (904) 241-5657, ext. 113.



As part of EMMA Concert Series' 41st season, Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform on Jan. 25.



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Free admission to Lightner for Museum Day Celebration

Discover, learn, listen and create from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Lightner Museum for Smithsonian's "Year of Music" Museum Day Celebration.

Search for musically inspired artifacts and artworks while exploring the museum galleries with a scavenger hunt specifically designed for Museum Day's 2019 theme: Smithsonian Year of Music. Learn about and listen to vintage instruments during several gilded age music room demonstrations. After the scavenger hunt and music demonstrations, go to the Mezzanine level overlooking the former Alcazar Hotel's historic pool area to create a music-themed craft.

Join the Lightner Museum and Smithsonian Magazine in celebrating "A Year of Music." The Museum Day annual celebration of boundless curiosity provides free admission for two people with Smithsonian Museum Day tickets. Participants may download one ticket per email address, which provides free general admission for two Saturday, Sept. 21.

To download tickets, visit smithsonianmag.com. Registration through the Smithsonian Magazine website is required prior to entry to receive free general admission for two.

For more information, visit bit.ly/MuseumDayLightner19.



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EMMA

Continued from 33

The 2019-2020 season lineup

All performances are 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- Sept. 21 — Neil Berg's '50 Years of Rock and Roll'
- Oct. 6 (3 to 5:30 p.m.) — Hollywood Concert Orchestra "Night at the Oscars"
- Dec. 18 — Holiday Pops with Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra
- Jan. 25 — Glenn Miller Orchestra
- Feb. 8 — Russian State Symphony Orchestra
- March 14 — Dance Alive National Ballet "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
- April 11 — Gainesville Orchestra

The Flagler College Lewis Auditorium is located at 14 Granada Street in downtown St. Augustine. To purchase tickets, visit emmaconcerts.com, call (904) 797-2800 or email EMMAinfo@bellsouth.net.

ABET to present 'Violet,' an award-winning musical

All Beaches Experimental Theatre presents "Violet," a journey toward a miracle, with music that will lift spirits and stir the soul. Tony-nominated, and winner of the Drama Critics' Circle Award and Lucille Lortel Award for Best Musical the show will be presents at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays, Sept. 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 and 29.



Photo courtesy of ABET

Director Michale Lipp said, "Once or twice a year, I binge on a dozen or so "obscure" musical cast recordings. In 1997, I discovered this small Off-Broadway musical called Violet with a wonderfully unique score. A patchwork of Americana – bluegrass, gospel, blues, and country – I found its music thrilling and unlike anything I'd heard before.

Online tickets are \$24 adults and \$14 under 18. At the door, tickets are \$25 adults and \$15 under 18. The house opens 30 minutes before curtain.

All Beaches Experimental Theatre is located at 544 Atlantic Blvd. in Neptune Beach. For reservations, visit www.abettheatre.com or call (904) 249-7177.



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SEP. 16	DON FELDER	DEC. 10	A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS w/ EUGE GROOVE, VINCENT INGALA & LINDSEY WEBSTER
SEP. 20	LOCAL NATIVES DEVON GIFFLIAN	DEC. 19	A ROCKAPELLA HOLIDAY
SEP. 28	GRANDSON NOTHING, NOWHERE	DEC. 20	HORTON'S HOLIDAY HAYRIDE w/ THE REV. HORTON HEAT, 5.6.7.8'S & MORE!
SEP. 30	BAD SUNS LILLY & ULTRA Q	JAN. 29	THE TAJ MAHAL QUARTET w/ ROB ICKES & TREY HENSLEY
OCT. 5	JOHN MEDESKI'S MAD SKILLET	JAN. 30	RODNEY CROWELL
OCT. 10	MARTY STUART'S PILGRIM SHOW	FEB. 1	OVER THE RHINE
OCT. 11	STEVEN PAGE DEAN FRIEDMAN	FEB. 9	LOS LOBOS
OCT. 17	THE WOOD BROTHERS TODD ALBRIGHT	FEB. 14	AL STEWART
OCT. 24	THE ALLMAN BETTS BAND JOANNE SHAW TAYLOR & JD SIMO	FEB. 20	TOM PAPA
OCT. 27	WYNONNA & THE BIG NOISE	FEB. 21	JIMMY WEBB
OCT. 31	ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY	FEB. 27	TOMMY EMMANUEL IDA MAE
NOV. 2	HERE COME THE MUMMIES	FEB. 28	STEEP CANYON RANGERS
NOV. 7	BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY	MAR. 10	SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY & THE ASBURY JUKES
NOV. 22	THE FAB FOUR "THE ULTIMATE BEATLES TRIBUTE"	APR. 2	LEE ANN WOMACK
NOV. 23	MASON JENNINGS	APR. 11	DAVE MASON
NOV. 24	JOHN OATES THE GOOD ROAD BAND	FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT	
DEC. 7	JOY TO THE WORLD: MESSIAH FAVORITES & HOLIDAY CAROLS	2019 SEASON: SEP. 15	2020 SEASON: NOV. 3 FEB. 23 MAR. 15 MAY 17

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 · PAGE 36

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

News from THE PLAYERS: MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation

Few people know the impact of the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation quite like Marc Atkinson. The organization's Director of Tennis first walked through the doors of the center in 2000, after just failing the sixth grade. Introduced to the organization at a community event hosted to educate youth about the risks and dangers of drugs, Atkinson embraced the Foundation's offerings of a safe place, character development, academic support-tutoring and tennis.

Located in an urban community with disproportionately high rates of violence, the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation operates a recognized afterschool program that utilizes the sport of tennis to promote academic achievement and positive life skills to kindergarten through high school students.

"I wouldn't be honest if I told you I was a good student and wasn't every bit of a knucklehead when I arrived," Atkinson said. MWYF Executive Director Terri Florio echoed Atkinson's comments, adding that upon joining the program, Marc's grade point average never went low-

er than a 3.0. "Over the years, I grew to love tennis and I left the center with the tools, skills and experiences that afforded me the opportunity to walk on to the tennis team at FAMU (Florida A & M University), where I earned my bachelor's degree in Sociology," Atkinson said.

Atkinson is the first college graduate of MWYF. Since its inception in 1997, more than 22,000 youth and families have benefited from programming that promotes leadership, sportsmanship, self-esteem, confidence, discipline, accountability, and the value of hard work, teamwork and individual effort.

Committed to "serving hope and changing lives," MWYF launched a \$5 million capital campaign for a new Teen Center to increase the number of youth served. In support of MWYF's efforts to reach the final \$1 million of its fundraising goal, THE PLAYERS announced a community challenge grant, providing a dollar for dollar match, up to \$500,000, for all funds raised. THE PLAYERS' gift will fund the center's middle school wing, serving and supporting students like Marc who grow up to be-



Photo courtesy of THE PLAYERS

come champions in their communities. The new MWYF Teen Center is slated to open in the spring of 2020.

"This place gives what so many in this community don't have—resources, support, and love," Atkinson said. "And for many of the kids—including this big kid here—a second family."

Atkinson and his wife, Tashika, have three children and live in Jacksonville.

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THEME: FOOTBALL

ACROSS

- Tax evader's fear
- "You betcha!"
- Fill to satisfaction
- Crocus, pl.
- Reef dweller
- Freeze off
- Buzz Aldrin's first name
- Wildebeest
- Reduced, often paired with down
- * ___ back
- *#1 NFL pick in 2019
- Precedes whiz
- Bald eagle's nest
- Summer sandwich?
- Past tense of reave
- Bee's favorite drink
- German currency
- Shower with affection
- Africa's horned herbivore
- Battery fluid
- Bad-tempered
- All over again
- Ticked off
- Cut with a beam
- Rip or pull
- Pico de gallo and such
- Abe's coin
- Hog haven
- Refuses to
- Likewise
- *Team gathering
- *Common play on 3rd and long
- Committee of judges
- One of the five W's
- Sheep's wrap
- Sheep-like
- Auction set
- Romanov's edict
- Type of message
- Aye-aye
- *Worn atop thigh pads

DOWN

- Maple tree and laptop brand
- Pakistani language
- *First ___!
- Cupcake topper
- Smaller than tiny
- Safecracker
- Poetic "even"
- On D'Artagnan's hat
- Practice in the ring
- Certain sensation
- *NFL Primetime and NFL Draft host Wingo
- *Type of zone
- More spry
- Must-haves
- Funerary vase
- What opposites do?
- *Soldier Field's team
- " ___ di Lammer-moor"
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- *Blindside block, e.g.
- Burn to a crisp
- Fork prongs
- Beside, archaic
- *"All my ___ friends are coming over tonight..."
- Words from Wordsworth, pl.
- Other than what is
- Gossipmonger
- Waste time
- La precursor
- *A game that could go either way
- Very recently
- Port city in Japan
- Possess
- Windows alternative
- *Football Hall of Famer Richard
- Cooking vessels
- Turkmenistan's neighbor
- Egg holder
- #23 Across, pl.
- Winner's take
- Gardening tool

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- Burn to a crisp
- Fork prongs
- Beside, archaic
- *"All my ___ friends are coming over tonight..."
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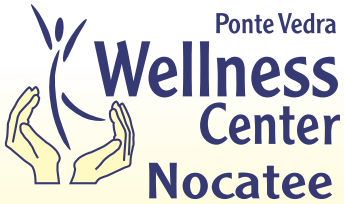
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