

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

September 26, 2019

Volume 47, No. 142

75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW

BEST IN SHOW!



The 2019 Best in Show Classic in Honor of Larry Weisman, sponsored by Wells Fargo Advisors, was awarded to Douglas Greer for his 1950 Plymouth Special Deluxe at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show in Nocatee on Sept. 22. Read more on page 5.

Photo by Susan Griffin



CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!

Help us celebrate

Page 4



Be Prepared: Storm Readiness

Pages 17-21



Business Weekly featuring Legal Eagles

Pages 23-31

CAR OF THE WEEK

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INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Calendar

Pages 8-9

In the Arts

Pages 32-34

Sports

Pages 35-36



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Send us your news

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

Visit our website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com



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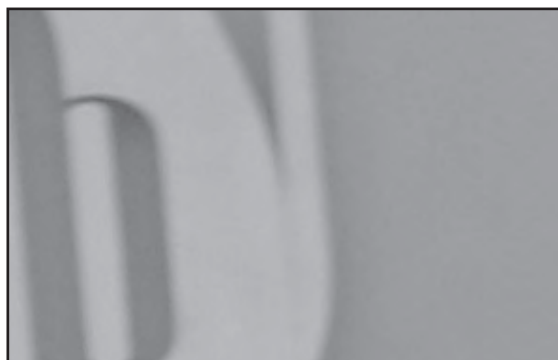


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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

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.

Five readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Tuptim Thai Cuisine. The winner of the random draw was **Sherrie Harris**. Congratulations, Sherrie — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET



CAT OF THE WEEK

Gucci was picked up and brought to the Pet Center as a stray. She is a 4-year-old domestic shorthair/tortoise shell cat. This beautiful little girl is very lovable, sweet and cuddly. Come see Gucci today at the Pet Center. #50922

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

Gilbert came to the Pet Center as an owner surrender. He is a 1½-year-old male shepherd mix. Gilbert is a very happy

dog who is learning to walk on a leash, and is doing very well. He is very affectionate and looking for a furrrever family who will spend time with him. Come see Gilbert today at the Pet Center. #51799

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

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

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

Summoning *all* Trick-or-Treaters



SPOOKTACULAR

October 11-13, 17-20, 25-27, 30-31
6:30-10:00 p.m. (gates close at 9 p.m.)



TICKETS ONLY ONLINE
spooktacular.jacksonvillezoo.org



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



Spectacular Water to Golf Views
 Ponte Vedra Beach/ Sawgrass Island
 Located in Sawgrass Island on an estate-sized lot this spacious single story home showcases spectacular water to golf views. With high ceilings, generous windows, and custom details throughout this home was built to accommodate all your needs. **4 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms \$1,575,000**



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**



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



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 www.elizabethhudgins.com
 "From Cottages to Castles"



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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



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\$295,000 | MLS 1015764
 Carol Gorey | 904.699.5643
 CarolGorey@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



BRIDGESTONE

444 N Bridgestone Ave., St. Johns, FL
\$307,700 | MLS 1015684
 Curtis Carter | 904.386.4651
 CurtisCarter@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



BLACKWOOD COVE

4981 Lindion, Jacksonville, FL
\$367,000 | MLS 1003329
 Carol Manning | 904.803.7729
 CLight@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PALENCIA

544 Sebastian Square, St. Augustine, FL
\$515,000 | MLS 1014342
 Cammy Ray | 904.806.3489
 CammyRay@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



COASTAL OAKS @ NOCATEE

270 Old Bluff Dr., Ponte Vedra, FL
\$599,000 | MLS 1015362
 Kay Kennedy | 904.631.4184
 KayKennedy@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



THE WOODLANDS @ PV

240 Woody Creek Dr., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
\$799,000 | MLS 996245
 Barbara Maple | 904.280.2829
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Cheers to 50 Years!

Milkshakes and the Ponte Vedra Recorder

By Christine Rodenbaugh

It's been 50 years since the first Wendy's opened in Columbus, Ohio, offering a frosty for just 39 cents. A small classic frosty is still a good value at 99 cents half a century later. And so is your community paper.

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?

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.

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

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

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



Image courtesy of The Wendy's Company

BRIEFS

Beach Renourishment Easement open house

St. Johns County is hosting a community open house from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Estuarine Research Reserve, 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting is regarding easements within the Army Corps of Engineers beach renourishment project boundary. County and Army Corps staff will be available to assist property owners and answer questions regarding the required easements. The meeting was rescheduled from Sept. 4. For more information, call (904) 209-0794.

Super Community Collection Event

St. Johns County Solid Waste is hosting a Super Community Collection Event from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Tillman Ridge Landfill, 3005 Allen Nease Road, for residents to safely dispose of household hazardous waste, electronics and tires (limit 10 per household) free of

charge. Items such as paint, motor oil, gasoline, fluorescent bulbs, wax, car and appliance batteries, pesticides, obsolete electronics such as monitors, modems, desk phones, and stereos, and automobile and light truck tires will be accepted. Items that will not be accepted include microwave ovens, large appliances, yard debris, household garbage, construction debris and commercial materials. For more information, visit www.recyclestjohns.com or call (904) 827-6980.

Ponte Vedra Utility System rate adjustment

In compliance with St. Johns County Resolution 2016-250, the Utility Department's new rates will become effective Oct. 1. These rates represent suspension of the annual Consumer Price Indexing, a 2% increase on water rates, and an 8.5% increase on wastewater rates. This increase will be seen on the first full billing cycle after the effective date.

For more information, call the Utility Department at (904) 209-2728. To view rate adjustments, visit bit.ly/pvrates19.

CORRECTION

Because of an editing error, the length of the truck was incorrect on page 11 of the Sept. 12 issue of the Recorder in the story "Local nonprofit delivers supplies to Bahamas." A quote by Marzena Mignone should have read, "I had never driven a 26-foot truck before..." We apologize for the error.

Ponte Vedra Beach renourishment back on radar

Commissioners vote 4-1 against adopting MSTU to fund feasibility study

By Amber Lake

Following the wake of another hurricane season, the conversation about Ponte Vedra Beach restoration is back on the agenda.

This time the question involves equity.

The St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners considered FY 2020 Tentative Millage Rates and Budget during a public hearing Sept. 12. The board brought up the question of leveraging money for the

Ponte Vedra Beach renourishment feasibility study rather than implementing the Municipal Service Taxing Unit for fiscal year 2020. While the MSTU was established in order to tax residences located within North Ponte Vedra's renourishment zone, current beach renourishment projects for Vilano, South Ponte Vedra and St. Augustine did not require such a tax.

In a motion prompted by Commissioner Blocker, the board decided against adopting the 0.6 millage assigned to the MSTU for FY 2020, which would have gone into effect Oct. 1. The motion was approved 4-1, with District 1 Commissioner James Johns dissenting.

BEACH continues on Page 15



Photo by Amber Lake

The Board of County Commissioners voted 4-1 on Sept. 12 to not adopt a tax percentage to the MSTU for FY 2020.

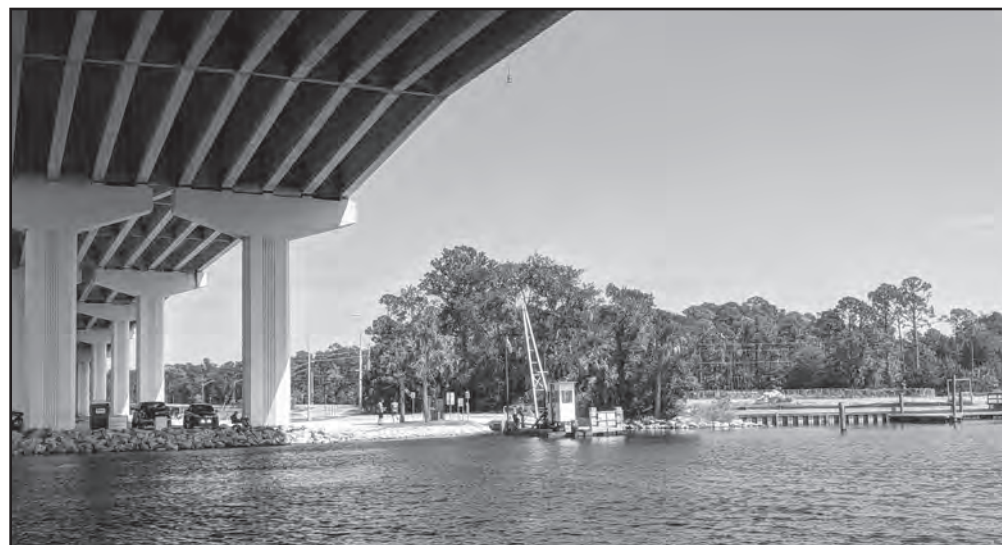


Photo by Amber Lake

On Sept. 17, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners voted to revisit the Roscoe community marina proposed for a site south of the Palm Valley Bridge on the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Roscoe community marina to be revisited

In rare decision, board votes 5-0 to reconsider proposal

By Amber Lake

The proposed Roscoe marina was brought to the board's attention again at a Sept. 17 public hearing, even though the community marina zoning variance was overturned in August. Proponents of the marina suggested revisiting the issue, even though the issue did not appear on the agenda. In an unusual turn of events, the board voted in favor to

readdress the project, 5-0.

The marina's developer, Paul Rohan, alleged both misrepresentation of facts and extortion from the opposition during public comment.

"The four appellants that filed for an appeal (did so in) a plan to extort money and leverage their position into getting whatever they wanted," Rohan said.

MARINA continues on Page 15



Photo by Matus Foris

Douglas Greer's 1950 Plymouth won the Best in Show Classic In Honor of Larry Weisman award at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show on Sunday, Sept. 22, at the Nocatee Event Field.

Ponte Vedra Auto Show draws record crowd

17th annual event hosted by St. Johns County Chamber, presented by Fields Auto Group

On Sunday, Sept. 22, The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, hosted the 17th annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show presented by Fields Auto Group at the Nocatee Event Field. The cars were perfectly aligned allowing spectators to take an up-close, personal look. The field was overflowing with incredible, one-of-a-kind vehicles from the 1934 Ford two-door Sedan, the 1957 Grumman Delivery Kurbside and the 1932 Ford 3W Coupe Street Rod.

The PV Auto Show welcomed a staggering 250 entries of collectable and classic car participants with over 4,000 car lovers, enthusiasts and vendors in attendance. Notable awards included The Best in Show Classic, sponsored by Wells Fargo Advisors, awarded to Douglas Greer for his 1950 Plymouth Special Deluxe and the Best in Show 61st Anniversary of the Mini, sponsored by Vystar Credit Union, awarded to Nancy Marquis for her 1979 Mini Cooper Austin Cooper. The Porsche Jacksonville "For the Spirit of It!" award went to Bert Harris, sponsored by Porsche Jacksonville.

PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW WINNERS LIST

Award Name	Sponsor	Name	Year/Make/Model
"Spirit of Nocatee" Golf Cart	Ponte Vedra Golf Carts	Tanea Jenkins	2014 Golf Cart - Club Car Precedent
Most Original	Sensible Recycling	Jimbo Workman	1957 Grumman Delivery Kurbside
Florida Crown Region Classic Porsche	Florida Crown Region	Vincent Vuong	1957 Porsche 356
Florida Crown Region Best Contemporary Porsche	Florida Crown Region	Eric Griffith	2016 Porsche Boxster Spyder
Best Vintage	SAC Collective	Sam Defranco	1947 Cadillac 62 series convertible
Best Classic	WheelHouse Luxury Storage Condominiums	Eric & Loni Gibson	1965 International Scout 80
Best Classic Euro	J7 Motorsports	Alex and Penny Levy	1966 Triumph 4A
Most Outstanding Pony Car	O'Reilly Auto Parts	Chris Zima	1969 Ford Mustang
Best Contemporary Pony Car	All Florida Safety Institute	Mark Massey	2000 Ford Mustang Cobra R
Most Outstanding Muscle Car	Ponte Vedra Wellness Center	Patrick Murphy	1967 Pontiac GTO
Best Contemporary Muscle Car	The Morgan Company	Fernando Quintana	2018 Dodge Hellcat Charger
Most Outstanding Corvette	T-Mobile	Michael Lucas	1967 Chevrolet Corvette
Best Contemporary Corvette	Allstate Insurance	Suzanne Norton	2018 Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport
Best of Britain	Pop-A-Lock	COL Terry Sopher	1968 Triumph TR250
Euro Excellence Award	Ponte Vedra Recorder	Jeff Fehrenkamp	1967 Volkswagen Beetle
Best Pro Tour Retro Rod	Atlantic Self Storage	Bruce Ross	1932 Ford 3W coupe Street Rod
Spirit of Racing	PURE Powersports	Joe Petty	1962 Lotus Super 7
Judges Choice	Sight and Sound Productions	Tracy Valsi	1970 Chrysler 300 Hurst Edition
Best of Autobahn	Fisher Tousey Leas & Ball	Conrad Swindell	1963 Mercedes Benz 220 SEb Convertible
Best Preserved Interior	Bluebird Pharmacy	Jim Reynolds	1986 Jeep Wagoneer
Best Restored Exterior	Eurospec	Mark Kmetz	1941 Willys Coupe
Asia Excellence Award	Florida Blue	Jay Mutina	1972 Datsun 240z
Fast and Furious Award	iFLY Jacksonville	Fernando Duffoo	1970 Dodge Challenger
Hagerty "People's Choice Award"	Hagerty (trophy provided)	Tyler Orzechowski	1913 Ford Model T Touring
"Spirit of Amelia"	Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance	Will Hilsky	1939 Cadillac 60 Special
Best Exotic	Ferran Automotive	Andrew Cannestra	2020 McLaren 600LT spider
Best Off Road	Happy Trails 4x4	Will Montoya	1970 Ford Bronco
Porsche Jacksonville "For the Spirit of it!"	Porsche Jacksonville	Bert Harris	1974 Porsche Carrera
"Best in Show" 30th Anniversary of the Land Rover Discovery	Jaguar Land Rover Jacksonville	Elena Perry	2001 Landrover Discovery
"Best in Show" Porsche 914 50th Anniversary	Berry & Co. Real Estate	Erik Olsen	1970 Porsche 914-6
"Best in Show" 60th Anniversary of the MINI	Vystar Credit Union	Nancy Marquis	1979 Mini Cooper Austin Cooper
Fields Auto Group "Pursuit of Perfection"	Fields Auto Group	Steven Katkowsky	1954 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible
Best in Show Classic in Honor of Larry Weisman	Wells Fargo Advisors	Douglas Greer	1950 Plymouth Special Deluxe

Known as “Papa” to his friends, Jeff Papa left the baseball diamond behind to pitch wine for Rombauer Vineyards to distributors in the southeastern United States. He loves Ponte Vedra, a good round of golf and pairing wines with food.

Jeff Papa



Photo courtesy of Rombauer Vineyards

What can you share about your background?

I was born in New York and grew up in upstate New York.

What was your experience with minor league baseball?

I played one year in Penn league and one year in Independent league. I loved the long bus rides and the comradery. I was not as good as I thought I was. I was a pitcher and my neck is still sore from watching balls fly over my head as batters were beating my best pitches all over the place!

What led to your interest in wine?

I started working as a bartender/buyer in a club in New York. Then through connections, went to work for a wine distributor and educated myself on wine.

Explain your email signature tag: “Wine is sold not bought!”

Wine needs to be sold and taught to restaurants and retailers to be able to be enjoyed by consumers. It is very important to educate the buyers and staff, share information and stories — it makes a difference to show

how wines differ and really take the time to educate your consumers.

Tell us about your current role with Rombauer Vineyards.

I am the Rombauer Vineyards sales manager for the Southeast USA region. I work with our distributor partners and customers education and selling Rombauer’s portfolio of wines. I do a lot of market work, out on the streets working hand-in-hand with each of our distributors. I also spend a lot of time supporting local wine events in the area as well as hosting many wine dinners in restaurants and festivals in my region. I enjoy educating my customers on the Rombauer story and sharing our delicious wines!

Do you prefer red or white?

I like it all — no preference on red or white but I do drink depending on my food pairing or my mood.

For someone new to wine, what’s a good way to get started?

You just have to get out there and taste. Try new and different wines — old and new world — and try all

varietals. You will be surprised at how much is out there! And take the time to educate yourself on the wines you try; do a little investigative work. If you decide to make it a career, look to work at a wine shop or restaurant then get some experience working in a distributor learning wine and how to sell it.

What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Vedra?

This is a great place to live. There is so much to do — beaches, golf, boating, fishing. This is a very good and growing market. I believe it is the best place I have ever lived. Prior to coming here, I lived in New York, North Carolina and several South Florida locations — Ponte Vedra is the best!

What do you like to do in your free time?

I enjoy golf and love to go to great eateries and, of course, drink great wine!

Would you like to tell us about your family?

I have a daughter who got married last year and moved from Houston to Denver. The rest of my family are my great friends and fantastic colleagues.

Edited by Christine Rodenbaugh



Photo by Susan Griffin

The Trophy Mobile makes the rounds at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show on Sunday, Sept. 22.

Auto Show

Continued from 5

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce presented the PV Auto Show in Nocatee for the fourth year in a row.

“We would like to thank the Parc Development Group for its continued support, and we want to thank our volunteers for their efforts and hard work. We appreciate the time put in to make this event successful and could not have produced this event without our strong support sys-

tem. Our staff, judges and amazing volunteers work hard to ensure that everything runs effortlessly each year as we welcome new faces and new entries,” said Isabelle Renault, CEO/president of SJCCC.

To see the full list of winners, visit www.pvautoshow.com or call the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division at (904) 285-2004.

To learn more about the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, visit www.sjccchamber.com. The Ponte Vedra Auto Show is funded in part by the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council.



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Attending our Open House can be a life-changing moment.



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Discover the possibilities at Bolles. To see all upcoming Open House dates, visit www.Bolles.org or call us at (904) 256-5030.

#ThisIsBolles

The Bolles School is a college preparatory day and boarding school for students in Pre-K through Grade 12.



Ponte Vedra Campus
October 10, 9-11 a.m.
November 19, 6-8 p.m.

Whitehurst Campus
November 5, 9-11 a.m.
December 3, 6-8 p.m.

Bartram Campus
November 6, 6 p.m.
November 7, 9 a.m.

San Jose Campus
October 25, 8 a.m.
November 15, 8 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 26	Friday, Sept. 27	Saturday, Sept. 28	Sunday, Sept. 29
<p>Savvy Job Hunters Ministry workshop Join Vice President of Communications for CareerSource NE Florida, Candace Moody, as she helps prepare for the "gig economy." Moody will discuss how to change one's mindset to embrace and thrive in a gig economy, how to create a plan for combining employment and gigs and how to know what combination is the right choice. Job opportunities, application procedures and company overviews will be presented by Suzanne Turcotte, branch manager of Fast Track Staffing Solutions; and David Dougherty, recruiter, for the U.S. Census Bureau. Buddy Webster of LEADERS Professional Recruiting will also be reviewing resumes, so bring several copies. This workshop is free and open to the public. For more information, email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Dr. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Reggae Thursdays at Lynch's Irish Pub Grab a brew and jam out to some reggae music at Lynch's Reggae Thursdays featuring the tunes of musical group, Split Tone, live at 10 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27. Lynch's Irish Pub is located at 514 First St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Grow Your Groceries: All The Basics with Man in Overalls</p>	<p>'The Wiz' matinee at Players by the Sea "The Wiz, a "Super Soul" musical is an urban retelling of the classic children's novel, "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," in the context of modern African-American culture featuring a funk, gospel and sensationally soulful score. After a cyclone hits her house, Dorothy is transported to the magical land of Oz where she meets the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Lion who help her on her journey to defeat the wicked Evillene, and find her way home. "The Wiz" matinee will begin at 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29. The production will be at the theatre until Oct. 12. For tickets or more information, visit www.playersbythesea.org or call (904) 249-0289. Players by the Sea Theatre is located at 106 Sixth St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>
<p>Thirsty Thursdays 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>The Summer of '64 with Scott Grant This presentation, featured from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27, at the Cultural Center focuses on the dramatic social events and natural disasters that culminated in the signing of The Civil Rights Act and putting North Florida on the map of inspiring social change. Martin Luther King Jr., the St. Augustine protests, Hurricane Dora and Bullet Bob Hayes are just a few of the highlights of this presentation. Scott A Grant is a local, expert historian on the dramatic events that happened on the First Coast during the Summer of 1964. Many famous people came together that Summer to protest and/or fight for desegregation. Tickets to the presentation are \$40 to the general public and \$30 to Cultural Center members. To purchase tickets or more information, visit www.ccpvb.org. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Phi Eco Salon is hosting a gardening session that will teach attendees everything to "grow their groceries" in raised-bed food gardens in Northeast Florida. The session, hosted from 5 to 8 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 28, will cover how to pick a garden spot, DIY raised bed installation, the secrets of good soil, what/when/how to plant, good watering practices and more. . Expect stories and a collaborative workshop. This session combines five workshop sessions into one master session for \$65. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Call the salon at (904) 735-9454 to reserve a spot. For more information, email hell@phiecosalon.com. Phi Eco Salon is located at 311 Third St. N., #106 in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Sundays at Surfer the Bar Join Big Fish Power Yoga on Sundays for a free "music & flow" class at Surfer the Bar. The class is held upstairs and runs from 10 to 11 a.m. Bring friends and family and enjoy brunch and mimosas after class. Register under classes at www.bigfishpoweryoga.com. Surfer the Bar is located at 200 First St. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>
<p>Florida Fall Festival & Wellness Expo Ponte Vedra Wellness Center will host a Florida Fall Festival and Wellness Expo, Sat., Sept. 26, to celebrate 15 years serving the Beaches communities. The Wellness expo will be from 5 to 7 p.m. and will showcase the services of local health and wellness providers in the community. There will also be raffle drawings benefitting the HEAL Foundation and food and drinks provided by local businesses such as Trasca & Co. Eatery and the St. Augustine Distillery. This is event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (904) 273-2691. The Ponte Vedra Wellness Center is located at 100 Corridor Road S. #220, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group meeting The Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group schedules weekly meetings inside Fidelity Bank, where members network with each other and guests. Each member/guest will introduce themselves and one member will present about the businesses he/she represents. The next meeting is Sept. 27 at 8:45 a.m. Fidelity Bank is located at 110 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>grandson at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Bluesy hard-rock trap artist, grandson, will perform live at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall on his "The End of the Beginning" tour with guest, nothing.nowhere., Saturday, Sept. 28, at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 in advance and \$32 the day of the show. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information, call (904) 209-0367. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra.</p>	<p>Riverside Pride Ride 2019 Join the Historic 5 Points community and Open Road Bicycles of Avondale for the second annual Riverside Pride Ride from 3 to 7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29. The ride is for all ages and ability levels and offers two routes this year, a two-mile route and a longer five-mile route. Both rides will begin and end from the parking lot of Be Still Float Studio. To help get in the spirit, everyone is invited to join for a bike decorating pre-party at the studio, beginning at 3 p.m. There will be decorations available, but attendees may bring more. The Bread & Board is also back again, providing complimentary sno-cones for all. For more information or to register, visit www.EventBrite.com and search the event, "Riverside Pride Ride 2019." Be Still Float Studio is located at 1050 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p>
<p>Seymour's semi-annual book sale Seymour's book store, located within the Ponte Vedra Beach Library, will be hosting its semi-annual book sale until Sept. 28, starting at 10 a.m. Pay with cash or check only. For more information, call Seymour's at (904) 273-3990. Seymours's is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Improv show at Ruby Beach Brewing Mad Cowford Improv Comedy, Jacksonville's home for improv since 2006, will be hosting a comedy show from 8 to 10 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27 at Ruby Beach Brewing. Enjoy some food and and libations and be armed with suggestions for the show. Everything performed by Mad Cowford Improv will be instantly made up on the spot. The show is open to the public and free to attend. Ruby Beach Brewing is located at 131 First Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Free football-themed pet photos at Earthwise Pet Jax Beach Celebrate football season and the beginning of Autumn with Earthwise Pet in Jax Beach from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 28. The store will be taking photos of pets with any amount of donation going to Fur Sisters -Forever Urs Rescue Inc. Remember to deck out pets in their best football team attire. The event will also have a pet adoption from Fur Sisters, a Jellibean Adventures book signing with Jax local author, Cindi Handley Goodeaux and free football bandanas for pets (or humans if feeling risque) while supplies last. There will also be treats for both, pets and their owners. For more information, call Earthwise Pet at (904) 372-7822 or email jaxbeach@earthwisepet.com. Earthwise Pet Jax Beach is located at 3846 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	

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Monday, Sept. 30	Tuesday, Oct. 1	Wednesday, Oct. 2	Thursday, Oct. 3
<p>Run Club at Southern Swells Brewing Co. Join Jax Beach Runners Monday nights at Southern Swells Brewing Co. for an evening run starting at 7 p.m. It is a 4.2-mile route, but runners can run as much or as little as they'd like. After the run, hang out and enjoy \$1 Southern Swells beers for all who ran. For more information about Jax Beach Runners and their events, visit their meetup page at www.meetup.com/Jax-Beach-Runners. Southern Swells Brewing Co. is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Beaches Business Association lunch and networking meeting The Beaches Business Association is a group of business owners and professionals who work together to support the beaches communities and raise funds for high school graduating seniors. The group meets Mondays at the Moose Lodge in Jacksonville Beach for networking and lunch. On Monday, Sept. 30, Kurtis Loftus of the 2019 Deck the Chairs will be the guest speaker. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m., with the meeting following from noon - 1 p.m. For questions or more information, visit www.jaxbba.org. The Moose Lodge is located at 805 First Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Trivia at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom every Monday night at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Real estate exam cram From 5:30 to 7 p.m., Monday, Sept. 30. visit the Exit Real Estate Gallery for a complimentary state exam study session, featured monthly by Broker and Licensed Real Estate Instructor, Raymond Rivera. Open for all and free to attend, guests will receive an in-depth view of exam topics, review sample questions and go over useful worksheets to reference in the days leading up to the exam. Exit Real Estate Gallery is located at 11701 San Jose Blvd. in Jacksonville.</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., Tuesday, Oct. 1. The event is free to attend with walk-ins and guests welcome. Those attending must bring their own snacks and/or beverages. Call the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to RSVP 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>Free quit smoking class Ever thought about quitting tobacco? Join for a free Quit Smoking Now class from the Northeast Florida Area Health Education Centers at the Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center. Classes meet once a week for six weeks starting Tuesday, Oct 1, from 6 to 7 p.m. Free patches, lozenges and gum will be provided, along with a quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more. For more information or to register, call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189. The Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center is located at 120 Health Park Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>First Wednesday Artwalk The First Wednesday Art Walk is a monthly event produced by Downtown Vision, Inc. (DVI), the Business Improvement District, to bring people to the cultural and historical center of the city and showcase Jacksonville's deep and energetic pool of creative talent. Open to visual and performing artists, Art Walk is on the first Wednesday of every month from 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine in downtown Jacksonville, centering in Hemming Park. Explore Jacksonville's local art, talent and businesses and much more, Wednesday, Oct 3. For more information, contact Hemming Park at (904) 515-5098. Hemming Park is located at 135 W. Monroe St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Caregiver support group The group will meet at The Palms at Ponte Vedra on April 3 at noon. This group encourages caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health while optimally caring for a person with dementia. This group also provides a needed break from caregiving responsibilities. Support groups create a safe, confidential, supportive environment. They also educate and inform participants about dementia and help participants develop methods and skills to solve problems. The Palms is located at 405 Solana Rd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Bahamas R&R (Rebuild & Restore) fundraiser St. Augustine's Tasting Tours will host a fundraising tour from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 2, to help raise money for the Bahamian Islands tragically affected by Hurricane Dorian. This event will feature happy hour cocktail creations, live cooking demos and tapas prepared on locally-sourced, Urban Asado grills, specially paired wine for each featured Chef's dish and raffle drawings. Event proceeds will benefit the Errol Thurston Bahamas Hurricane Relief Fund and Mercy Chefs. Tickets are \$89 per person and can be purchased at www.thetastingtours.com/bahamas-rr-fundraising-event. The event begins at Secret Garden Of ShiSha, located at 23 Cuna St. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>Thirsty Thursdays 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>Hispanic Culture Film Festival Corazon Cinema and Cafe will host a Hispanic Culture film festival starting at 4 p.m., from Tuesday, Oct. 3, through Wednesday, Oct. 6. Following the paths of other film festivals like Sundance, Telluride, Toronto, Cannes and Malaga, the Hispanic Culture Film Festival will include a selection of films that display the best of Hispanic culture and an awards ceremony to highlight the best of the best. Special guests include Lincoln Palomeque, Paola Rey, Linda Lucia Callejas, Nicolas Tovar, Victor Alejandro Camejo and Emcee Pilar Ortiz. Enjoy over 60 unique films and perspectives of Hispanic culture. For ticket purchases, questions and more information, visit www.hcff.online. Corazon Cinema and Cafe is located at 36 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</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., Oct. 3, 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>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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Photo courtesy of Pink Up The Pace

Runners and walkers warm up before the start of the 2018 Pink Up The Pace 5K Walk/Run. This year's race is set for Oct. 5 in downtown St. Augustine.

Pink Up The Pace kicks off Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The starting signal for the 11th annual Pink Up The Pace 5K Walk/Run will sound at 8 a.m. Oct. 5 in historic downtown St. Augustine. The two-day event will kick off October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Pink Up The Pace is a nonprofit organization founded by Cindy Chaconas in 2009 when she was diagnosed at age 28 with breast cancer.

The event continues to grow. The

inaugural 2009 race attracted more than 800 participants and raised \$20,000. Since then, the organization has funded \$300,000 in breast imaging services. All the money raised stays in St Johns County and goes directly toward the mission of assisting the uninsured and underinsured with financial challenges faced in the detection of breast cancer.

PINK continues on Page 12

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TREATMENT PACKAGE

Local eatery to host 2 veterans' charity events

Woody's Bar-B-Q of Ponte Vedra teams up with K9s For Warriors

Newly designated as a corporate store and franchisee training headquarters, Woody's Bar-B-Q of Ponte Vedra has been making some exciting changes lately for the benefit of its patrons and the community. In addition to a recent \$100K renovation to the restaurant's interior and the release of new daily specials, the St. Johns County eatery has teamed up with Ponte Vedra-based nonprofit, K9s For Warriors.

K9s For Warriors is dedicated to training and providing service dogs to military veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury and/or Military Sexual Trauma as a result of military service post-9/11. Located at 226 Solana Road, Woody's Bar-B-Q of Ponte Vedra will host two events to benefit K9s For Warriors as its dedicated charity during October.

Throughout October, Woody's has declared a friendly competition between Interact Clubs at Ponte Vedra High School and Fletcher High School. Both schools will receive flyers to distribute to friends, parents, neighbors and the public. When the recipient presents a flyer to Woody's Bar-B-Q of Ponte Vedra, the restaurant will donate 20% of the meal ticket to K9s For Warriors and keep a tally of which school brings in the most donations. An announcement of the winning school will be made in November, along with the total amount raised for the nonprofit.

On Oct. 12, Woody's will host a grand reopening to show off its new look and introduce patrons to the new owners — company cofounders, Yolanda Mills-Mawman and Woody Mills. The event will include giveaways, raffle for prizes, food samples, live music and kid-friendly activities. Throughout the event, the restaurant will also collect donations for K9s For Warriors. Representatives from the nonprofit will be on hand to offer information about its program and introduce guests to a few service pups in training.

"Woody and I are so proud to partner with K9s For Warriors," said Mills-Mawman, president of Woody's Bar-B-Q. "There's just something about love of barbecue and love of country that go hand-in-hand. In addition to our new relationship with K9s For Warriors, we offer a 10% discount to all active military members and veterans who dine with us at Woody's Bar-B-Q of Ponte Vedra. It's our way of saying 'thank you for your service.'"

Veterans who attend the no-cost, three-week in-house training program with K9s For Warriors receive all necessary equipment, daily training, home cooked meals,

wrap-around services and assistance, plus a service dog for life. The organization relies on the generosity of its supporters by way of donations and grants to support its operations. Since its inception in 2011, K9s For Warriors has graduated 564 warrior/dog teams. In addition to helping veterans, K9s For Warriors also helps the dogs it brings into service. The majority of dogs used in the program are from rescue shelters. As of July 2019, 1,068 dogs have been rescued through the program.

To learn more about K9s For Warriors, visit www.k9sforwarriors.org.



K9s For Warriors graduate Bill with his service dog Woody



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Kacey Musgraves concert raises over \$225,000 for 2 local charities

2019 Sing Out Loud Festival continues through Sunday

The Sing Out Loud Festival makes a cultural impact on Northeast Florida, attracting hundreds of artists to about a dozen St. Augustine venues to entertain residents and visitors alike. Most of the performances are free, but the Saturday, Sept. 21 benefit concert at The Amp was sold out months in advance.

As part of the Sing Out Loud Festival, 2019 GRAMMY award-winning Country music star Kacey Musgraves headlined the Sing Out Loud Festival Benefit Concert, which raised \$225,392.50 for two local charities – HorsePlay Therapy Center and the Green Hands Initiative for St. Johns County Public Schools.

The Sing Out Loud Festival, now in its fourth year, is Florida's largest free music festival and benefit concert. Featuring 334 national, regional and local singers, musicians, comedians and poets, all performances are free and open to the public with the exception of the Sept. 21 benefit concert. Kacey Musgraves, this year's benefit headliner, handpicked two beneficiaries from a list of local charities. Within 60 minutes of going on sale on March 15, tickets to the benefit concert sold out, resulting in over \$225,000 raised for HorsePlay Therapy Center and the Green Hands Initiative for St. Johns County Public Schools. Musgraves presented donation checks of \$112,696.25 to each organization prior to her taking the stage at the Amphitheatre.

HorsePlay Therapy Center is a not for profit pediatric therapy organization located in the heart of St. Augustine that specializes in



ABOVE: Kacey Musgraves, this year's benefit headliner, presents a check for \$112,696.25 to HorsePlay Therapy Center.



LEFT: Musgraves presents a check for \$112,696.25 to Green Hands St. Johns County Public Schools.

Photos courtesy of The Amp

serving children with special needs. HorsePlay Therapy is one of the few organizations in the southeast dedicated to providing physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy for children on horseback. The funds raised from the concert will provide scholarships and funding to build a covered arena so HorsePlay can provide therapy year-round. Watch HorsePlay Therapy Center talk about their mission and thank Kacey Musgraves online at youtu.be/_T_SPohatLk.

The Green Hands Initiative is committed reducing unnecessary waste and minimizing adverse impacts on

cherished resources, while supporting and encouraging education and sustainability within the community. Proceeds raised for the Green Hands Initiative will go toward the purchase of filtered water refill stations for St. Johns County Public Schools. By providing filtered water refill stations and encouraging the use of reusable water bottles, students will learn about environmental responsibility and waste reduction.

The Sing Out Loud Festival wraps up this weekend with performances Friday, Saturday and Sunday at several venues. For more information, visit www.singoutloudfestival.com.

SING OUT LOUD FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

The Backyard at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre
1340C A1A South, St. Augustine
7 p.m. - DOORS OPEN
8 p.m. - LILLY HIATT
9 p.m. - SHOVELS & ROPE

3 p.m. - THE RIP CURRENTS
4 p.m. - UNCLE MOSIE
5 p.m. - STRAYIN ANCHORS
6 p.m. - THE WILLOWWACKS
7 p.m. - EMMA MOSELEY
8 p.m. - THE YOUNG STEP
9 p.m. - LPT

Dog Rose Brewing Co.
77 Bridge Street, St. Augustine
7 p.m. - GYPSY CHYX
8:30 p.m. - AMANDA MARIE MUSIC
10 p.m. - SAM & LUCI

Nobby's
10 Anastasia Blvd, St. Augustine
6 p.m. - CAT RIDGEWAY & THE TOURISTS
7 p.m. - CONSTANT SWIMMER
8 p.m. - HALF MY HOME
9 p.m. - FLAT STANLEY
10 p.m. - JOHN VANDERSLICE
11 p.m. - DEADKAREN
11:59 PM CURIOUS MARKINGS

Colonial Oak
33 St. George Street, St. Augustine
6 p.m. - AMY ROBBINS
7 p.m. - BLACKBIRD MORNING
8 p.m. - HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL
9 p.m. - WAX WINGS

Dog Rose Brewing Co.
77 Bridge Street, St. Augustine
6:30 p.m. - CRS
8 p.m. - THE GRAPES OF ROTH
9:30 p.m. - LUCAS
11 p.m. - MATT FOWLER & SUE TICE DUO

Sarbez
115 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
6 p.m. - THE COPPER TONES
7 p.m. - SIDE HUSTLE
8 p.m. - SLOFUNKPUMP
9 p.m. - INDIGO DREAMERS
10 p.m. - HARD LUCK SOCIETY
11 p.m. - HANNAH HARBER & THE LIONHEARTS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 29

Gamble Rogers Showcase
Aviles Street, St. Augustine
Noon - BUFFALO ROSE
1 p.m. - JON PRESTAGE
2 p.m. - BELMONT & JONES
3 p.m. - SUNSET MONDAY
4 p.m. - ADAM LEE
5 p.m. - BACKDOOR STOMPERS
6 p.m. - THE HOUSE CATS

St. Augustine Distillery
112 Iberia Street, St. Augustine
9 p.m. - MORROW FAMILY BAND

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28
Scrapple Showcase at Sarbez
115 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
7 p.m. - DAISY CHAIN
7:45 p.m. - KEV PM
8:30 p.m. - ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY
9:15 p.m. - BODY HEAT
10 p.m. - DEAD FEELING
10:45 p.m. - IMMATERIAL POSSESSIONS
11:30 p.m. - DONZII
11:59 p.m. - THE DEWARS

Colonial Oak
33 St. George Street, St. Augustine
3 p.m. - AUSTIN PALMER
4:30 p.m. - JULIE BLACK DUO
6 p.m. - RAMBLIN MUTTS
7:30 p.m. - HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY
9 p.m. - PROUD MIRANDA

Gamble Rogers Showcase
Aviles Street, St. Augustine
Noon - SCIATICA BEACH
1 p.m. - GREG RUGGIERO
2 p.m. - HR GERTNER
3 p.m. - BOB PATTERSON
4 p.m. - GRANT PEEPLES
5 p.m. - XARIS
6 p.m. - DARRYL WISE

The Backyard at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre
1340C A1A South, St. Augustine
6 p.m. - DOORS OPEN
7 p.m. - EARLY JAMES & THE LATEST
8:30 p.m. - SON VOLT

Colonial Oak
33 St. George Street, St. Augustine
2 p.m. - SALTY DAUG

Dog Rose Brewing Co.
77 Bridge Street, St. Augustine
6 p.m. - SAVVY
7 p.m. - MALLORY JEN
8:15 PM PENN JOHNSON

Sarbez
115 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
7 p.m. - NICHOLAS ROBERTS
9 p.m. - DERON BAKER
10 p.m. - THE MIX

CHARITY ON TAP

Nichole Trinh (from left), Anna Washington, Carol Maurer and Justin Johns at the check presentation of funds raised during recent month-long Charity Tap Takeover at Mulligans Pub. Funds will be used to support PGA Tour's Birdies for the Brave charities.

Photo courtesy of Carol Maurer



Pink

Continued from 10

This year's PUTP weekend will begin with the Expo and Packet Pickup from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4 at First Coast Technical College where there will be informative booths regarding breast cancer awareness, treatment and support, vendors and raffles. The race is followed by a PUTP Kids' Fun Run, sponsored by Lighthouse Pediatrics. The Fun Run is free and open to kids age 6 and under. Registration for the Fun Run is mandatory and only available at the Expo or on race day. Registration for the 5K at the Expo is \$30, or \$35 on race day for. Children ages 6 to 14 can register for \$15 through Oct. 4 or \$35 on race day. To register online or learn more about PUTP, visit www.pinkupthepace.org.

Local nonprofit to host 3rd annual fall gala

By Daniela Toporek

It may not feel like it in Florida, but the autumn season has officially arrived. As leaves prepare to turn, local nonprofit, Chemo Noir founder, Katrin Casey, prepares for the third annual Chemo Noir Fall Gala to be hosted from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at 3 Palms Grille.

“I want it to be an experience,” Casey said, “The 3 Palms venue has just been incredible.”

Casey hopes to make the night memorable with interactive activities like a cork-pull raffle for elevated wine packages, live music from Barrett Thomas and a VIP cocktail hour for founders and sponsors before the gala begins.

“We’re also leveling up this year with really amazing auction items,” she said. “Anything from Jaguars, Icemen, Jumbo Shrimp to high-end vacation packages, a few wine tastings and a night at One Ocean.”

All prizes and pizzazz aside, Casey just looks forward to a fun night with loved ones and all who supported her cause, allowing Chemo Noir to financially assist more than 20 local cancer patients before its third-year mark.

“I know what these cancer patients are going through, so it’s so great when

people come out, not just for a good time, but to also contribute to our bigger missions,” she said.

“Whether it’s buying a ticket, bidding on an auction item, or simply contributing time and talent to events, it’s just an overwhelming gratitude every time. And everyone hates cancer, so it’s all good.”

To purchase gala tickets, visit www.EventBrite.com and search for “The 2019 Chemo Noir Fall Gala,” event. Proceeds fund Chemo Noir to assist more financially struggling cancer patients.




Carolyn Mathis and Lori Adams attended last year’s Chemo Noir Gala at 3 Palms Grille



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Open House dates: November 5 and January 14.

Families enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year and beyond will be enrolled in Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

www.esj.org • www.beacheseπισcopschool.org

Ponte Vedra High School students start Investor's Club

Club aims to teach financial literacy to college-bound students

By Amber Lake

For most, the words “teenager” and “financially savvy” don’t go hand-in-hand. Many remember a procession of fiscal fumbles that followed them well into their 20s before mismanagement evolved into a semblance of financial literacy. Trial and error, also known as “learning the hard way,” is pretty much taken for granted as the harrowing steps toward adulthood. Seventeen-year-old Ponte Vedra High School students, Jack Landis and Tyler Leinan, decided, however, that rather than pay for the knowledge out of pocket, they were going to grab the bull market by the horns.

Born from the ashes of negative bank account balances was The Investor’s Club.

“Overall, we see the Investor’s Club as striking a unique market that conventional education is lacking — financial preparedness,” President of the Investors Club, Jack Landis, said.

The club hosts guest speakers and runs stock market simulators to help teach students the ins and outs of investing in a complicated economic system.

“We do some career-oriented stuff as well,” said Vice President Tyler Leinan. “We have people (in the industry) come in and talk about their careers. They explain how if someone wanted to pursue a career in finance, how to go about that.”

Landis said that the idea came to him as a simple “supply and demand” deficit that students weren’t being provided. So much so, his first meeting hosted over 50 students in attendance.

“Many say ‘I didn’t even know this was



a thing you could do,” said Landis. “Or, ‘I didn’t even know this was a thing you had to do.’”

The two organize every meeting, setting up guest speakers and coordinating the stock market simulator, which they use competitively between members to win “Best Top Earner.” Recently, the club hosted a financial advisor previously employed at the Empire State Building and Merrill Lynch’s Senior Financial Advisor. From both they learned the importance of safe investments as opposed to risky ones, as well as the steps it takes to get certified as a certified financial planner.

Currently, both presidents are interested in expanding their club’s reach to other schools in the district. They hope that by setting up satellite Investor’s Clubs, they can not only expand the knowledge of financial literacy but have schools to compete against for Best Top Earning club in the stock market simulator.



ABOVE: Ponte Veda High School’s Investor’s Club regularly hosts speakers in the financial industry at their meetings.

LEFT: Tyler Leinan, vice president (left) and Jack Landis, president (right) founded the Investor’s Club at PVHS.

Photos courtesy of Jack Landis

OBITUARIES

Jack Lee Peterson

Jack Lee Peterson, 87, peacefully passed away Saturday morning, September 14, 2019. Born January 25, 1932 in Omaha, NE, Jack passionately embraced life’s opportunities and fostered rich relationships throughout his years.

The first of six children to Harold and Ruth Peterson, Jack was educated at Walnut Hill Elementary School and Benson High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Creighton University and a graduate degree of Master of Science in Hospital Pharmacy from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. He practiced pharmacy before a distinguished career of more than 30 years with Eli Lilly & Company.

During high school and college, Jack dated Jacqueline Lea Gaskill and the two married in 1955. The couple enjoyed a loving, remarkable, 47-year marriage that

took them to Missouri, Minnesota, California, Indiana, and cities in Florida before settling in Ponte Vedra Beach in 1996. Later in life, following Jackie’s passing in 2002, Jack shared a special, 17-year relationship with Aurora Ave.

Jack had a lifelong passion for music. He sang in the church youth choir (Omaha), played banjo and piano, sang with The Big Orange (Jacksonville) and Sons of Beaches (Ponte Vedra Beach) barbershop groups, and sang with the Palms Presbyterian Church Choir. He also loved boating, sailing from his slip in Marina Del Rey, racing thistles in Indianapolis, and enjoying power boating in Minneapolis, Indianapolis, and Tampa Bay. He played basketball in his high school and college years, and later in life, Jack was a very active golfer. He was an avid fan of Nebraska Cornhuskers football and Creighton Bluejays basketball. Jack also had many new interests in the past 15 years, to include cultivating orchids, learning calligraphy, and welcoming purple martins

to his backyard. More than anything, Jack enjoyed the richness of relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and members of local groups. He was patient, persistent, considerate, and gracious — Jack was a true, gentle man.

Jack is survived by his sons Kyle (Tracy), John (Julie), and Andrew; granddaughters Elizabeth, Sarah, Audrey, Elsa, and Grace; grandson Lankston; and great grandchildren Amelia, Pierceson, and Ada. Jack also leaves behind his partner of 17 years, Aurora, his brothers Robert (Camilia) and Frank (Cindy), and sister Deanna. Jack is predeceased by his wife Jackie, infant daughter Kristen Lea, and infant son Wayne Lee. He also is predeceased by his sisters Janice (Ronald) and Melinda.

A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. (Eastern), Friday, October 4, 2019 at Palms Presbyterian Church, 3410 3rd Street South, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250.

In addition, a memorial service will be held 2 p.m. (Central), Monday, October

14, 2019 at Augustana Lutheran Church, 3647 Lafayette Avenue, Omaha, NE 68131. Jack’s interment will follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Jack asked that memorials in his name be sent to Community Hospice & Palliative Care, 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257 (www.communityhospice.com/give).

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

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Mark Dukaj

Mark Dukaj, 52, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Sept. 19, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

NOCATEE HAPPENINGS

Boutique fitness center to open at Nocatee

By Daniela Toporek

Right on time to burn off the holiday calories, Burn Boot Camp, boutique fitness concept and studio, is set to open its doors winter 2019 to warm up Nocatee Town Center.

Located off Pine Lake Drive, east of Crosswater Parkway, the new concept adheres to a five-pillar philosophy to help clients achieve success. The pillars are mindset, whole food nutrition, burst training, strength training and creating a positive environment.

Burn Boot Camp offers multiple 45-minute “camps” throughout the day, with different workout styles and techniques offered.

Focus meetings are also available for one-on-one time with head trainers, discussing nutrition, performance, lifestyle, weight loss and more.

For busy parents and guardians, complimentary childcare is offered at multiple times throughout the day, as well.

To stay updated with Burn Boot Camp and its opening in Nocatee at @BurnBootCamp on Facebook and Instagram. For more information, email nocateetowncenterfl@burnbootcamp.com.



Photo courtesy Burn Boot Camp

Beach

Continued from 4

Rohan indicated he had both email and voicemail evidence, which he submitted to the board. Additionally, the developer said the canal’s hazards were fabricated, citing evidence that there were no police reports pertaining to a life-threatening watercraft incident that opponents of the marina specified at the previous meeting.

“We pulled the police reports, and nobody was crippled,” Rohan said. “Nobody was sent by helicopter with a broken neck. Shame on these people for coming up here and lying to you.”

The proposed marina site is east of the Intracoastal Waterway and south of the Palm Valley Bridge, near the boat ramp. The project included 75 slips of unenclosed dry berthing storage, which

was suggested to create less of an environmental impact. Also incorporated were 12 wet slips to line the Intracoastal Waterway, although not intended for overnight use.

District 5 Commissioner Henry Dean suggested that although revisiting the zoning variance was unusual, he was compelled to do so.

“This is a rare action I think, to revote and reconsider an item,” Dean said. “But based on that there are so many facts in dispute that were presented to us and I made a decision based in a large part on a number of those facts. Be them right or wrong, I would like to take the time and interest to hear again. It’s a bit rare, but in our effort to seek the truth I am willing to sit here and spend a whole day if that’s what it takes to hear both sides so we can make an informed, intelligent decision.”

Marina

Continued from 4

According to public works director, Neil Shinkre, the county has received a grant of matched funds from the state, leaving a remaining \$700,000 of funding needed for the intermediate phase of the North Ponte Vedra project.

“My concern is I think this is an equity issue,” Blocker said. “We have other parts of the county, specifically South Vilano beach restoration effort. We did not require those residents to pay the initial feasibility studies, but we are requiring that for Ponte Vedra. Frankly, I would ask the administration and the board to look at this. I think the county needs to find a way to absorb that remaining \$700,000.”

Public concern regarding Ponte Vedra’s beaches has reached a tipping point, with many residents at the meeting asking the board why the project wasn’t commenced sooner. For those living on the coast, the dune line has been pushed back 30 to 40 feet post hurricane Matthew, reaching what is considered a critical condition.

According to District 5 Commissioner, Henry Dean, the beach’s issue wasn’t on the board’s radar until after the hurri-

cane’s damage severely eroded it.

“This county has worked hard for the past 12 years on St. Augustine Beach and for the last three years on South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beach,” Dean said. “We’ve done little or nothing for Ponte Vedra Beach. That’s a fact... I don’t think we went out of our way as a commission over the last five or 15 years to ignore this problem. I don’t think it was a serious problem until after Matthew and Irma. Then, it became a critical problem. We are trying to do something about it, and we are committed to that.”

BMX-TREME EXTRAVAGANZA THRILLS AT NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET



Nocatee’s Farmers Market took it to the extreme Sept. 21 hosting the BMX-Treme Extravaganza! Families witnessed BMX performances from Perfection on Wheel’s BMX Pros Trick Team. Each show included incredible half-pipe tricks and stunts, crowd participation and more. Along with this exciting and action-packed theme, the market included over 70 local vendors offering items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, delicious unique foods, crafts and jewelry. Kids had access to crafts and bounce houses. For those 21 and older, the bar was open for beer and wine purchases. The Primary Sponsor was Lazzara Orthodontics.

Photos by Susan Griffin

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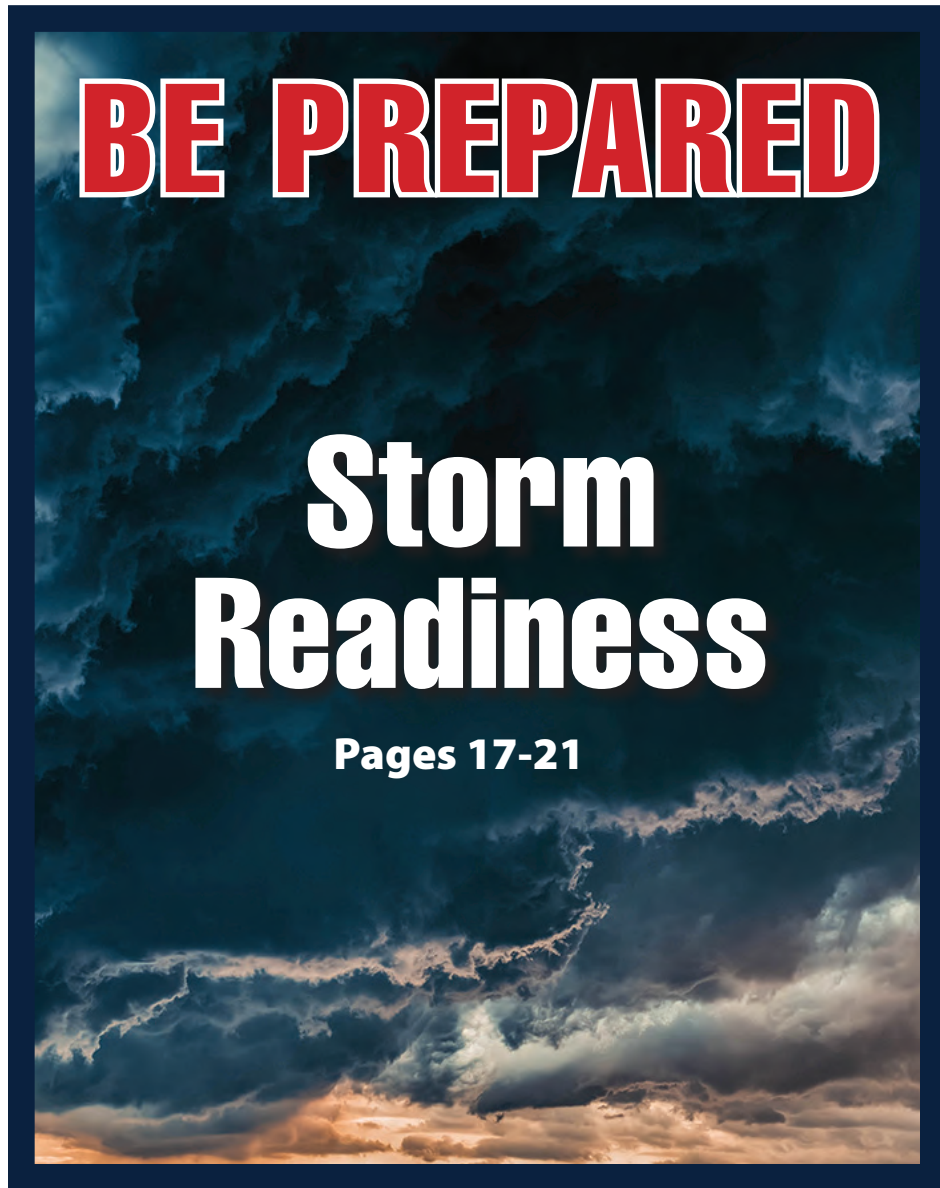
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BE PREPARED

Storm Readiness

Pages 17-21



St. Augustine Distillery raised \$5,000 to aid victims of Hurricane Dorian. Back row (from left): Matt Stevens, Lucas Smith and Tyler Mayben. Front row (from left): Kacy Rodriguez, Leigh-Ann Longo, Kimberlie Ross, Elizabeth Cranis and Jade Sullivan

Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Distillery

Local bourbon helps feed victims of Hurricane Dorian

St. Augustine Distillery raises \$5,000 for hurricane relief

Following the devastation of Category 5 Hurricane Dorian to the Grand Bahamas and Abaco Islands, St. Augustine Distillery launched a local fundraiser to support victims of the storm. With the help of the St. Augustine community, the Distillery raised \$5,000 for World Central Kitchen's

efforts in Hurricane Dorian relief. Founded in 2010 by chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen is a not-for-profit organization devoted to providing meals in the wake of natural disasters. In 2018, World Central Kitchen served more than 5 million fresh meals to victims of disaster. They have responded to emergencies

RELIEF continues on Page 18



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Beware of scammers impersonating FEMA workers

Florida Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal Jimmy Patronis warned Floridians impacted by Hurricane Dorian about scammers impersonating Federal Emergency Management Administration personnel. Reports of these scammers were coming in from the Jacksonville area, but could be widespread.

“Storms bring out the best in people, but sometimes they can, unfortunately, bring out the worst in people,” Patronis said. “My office is hearing of reports of people impersonating FEMA telling them not to evacuate. FEMA does not go door-to-door or call you to offer assistance. After the storm, legitimate companies will never ask for cash up front to make repairs. Always remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.”

Patronis’ office offered the following tips on how to spot storm scammers.

- **Verify:** Verify the identity of individuals claiming to represent government and



Photo by Judith Grafe/FEMA News Photo

Beware of scammers after a storm. FEMA will open Disaster Recovery Centers like this one opened June 15 in Sand Springs, Oklahoma to provide assistance with registering for disaster aid after a storm that caused flooding.

relief agencies or insurance companies. Official personnel should display ID badges, should provide identification without

hesitation. If you suspect that someone is impersonating official personnel, contact the local police department or sheriff’s

office immediately.

- **Beware of door-to-door agents:** Imposters often go door-to-door claiming to be FEMA representatives, asking for money to assist with the filing of federal flood claims. FEMA does not charge for this service and does not go door-to-door in this capacity.

- **Beware of robocalls:** Imposters claiming to represent FEMA typically call consumers and ask them to hang up and dial a 1-800 number to make an insurance payment ASAP to prevent policy cancellations.

- **Too good to be true:** If an offer sounds too good to be true, it most likely is. Don’t deal with anyone who demands cash up front. Don’t sign anything.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding assistance, call your insurance agent, insurance company or Patronis’ Insurance Consumer Helpline at 1-877-MY-FL-CFO.

The Amelia to match funds for Bahamas relief efforts

Buy a \$125 general admission ticket to Concours d’Elegance, foundation will donate \$50

While Northeast Florida was mostly spared from the wrath of Hurricane Dorian, our friends in the Bahamas were not so fortunate. On Sept. 1 the unthinkable happened, an already slow-moving Category 5 storm stalled over the Bahamas destroying vital infrastructure and leaving tens of thousands homeless, costing others their lives.

The staff and board of directors of The Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance Foundation discussed ways to help the Bahamian people and decided that a financial gift would be best.

The normal “early bird” general admission ticket price for Sunday’s Amelia Concours d’Elegance is \$100. The board is temporarily raising that amount to \$125 and will donate \$50 per ticket sold to Bahamas relief efforts (\$25 of the special \$125 ticket price is a donation to The Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization). The foundation will then match each \$25 gift for a total donation of \$50 to Bahama relief efforts per ticket sold. A donation confirmation letter of \$25 per ticket is available upon request.

The Amelia will run this campaign until Oct. 15 and donate \$50 for every \$125 general admission ticket sold during that time. To purchase a ticket, visit bit.ly/Bahamas-Concours.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Fast facts about flooding

Floods can be highly destructive natural disasters. The U.S. Geological Survey’s Water Science School says that around 71 percent of the Earth’s surface is covered by water. While oceans hold about 96.5 percent of all the planet’s water, rivers, lakes, ice caps, and glaciers also are large water sources.

National Geographic points out that flooding has caused more death and destruction than any other kind of natural disaster in the United States. Flooding may result from overflowing streams or rivers; when coastal storms cause the sea to surge inland; if a dam or levee has ruptured; if ice melts rapidly in the mountains; or if excessive rain cannot be absorbed by the ground fast enough. Flooding can even occur without warning, and such instances are referred to as “flash flooding.”

Staying safe during floods involves understanding floods. The following information, courtesy of the Emergency

Management Institute, FEMA, Ready.gov, and National Geographic, can help men and women better understand floods and how to stay safe in flooding situations.

- **No region is safe from flooding.** Floods can occur anywhere, but are rare in areas where water is scarce.

- **Floods may develop very slowly or in just a matter of seconds after an extensive rainfall.**

- **Areal floods can occur where saturated grounds are present.**

- **Although the term “hundred-year flood” describes an extremely large and very rare event, these types of floods have recently been occurring worldwide with increased regularity.**

- **In the United States, floods cause about \$6 billion worth of damage and kill, on average, 140 people every year.**

- **Coastal flooding alone attributes to \$3 trillion in damage worldwide.**

Relief

Continued from 17

in Puerto Rico, North Carolina, California, Haiti, Indonesia and elsewhere. The World Central Kitchen Chef Relief Team partners with organizations on the ground and activates a network of food trucks and emergency kitchens to deliver nutritious meals to survivors quickly and effectively.

“We envision a world where there is always a warm meal, an encouraging word, and a helping hand in hard times,” said Chef Jose Andres, founder of World Central Kitchen.

Philip McDaniel and Mike Diaz, co-founders of the St. Augustine Distillery, share Chef Andres’ sentiment and felt

compelled to do their part to help. The distillery created an opportunity for the local community to stock up on holiday spirits while making a difference.

“Our city has had its fair share of devastation and was, for a time, in the direct path of Hurricane Dorian. We feel a sense of responsibility and wanted to help however we could. We decided to donate a percentage of our sales and, with tremendous support from every person who visited our gift shop over the past few weeks, we are now able to send a check for \$5,000 to the WCK organization. It is truly amazing what can be accomplished when we work together for a common goal,” McDaniel said.

To learn more about World Central Kitchen, call (202) 844-6430 or email hello@wck.org.

Prepping pets for an emergency

By **Samantha Kennedy**

Family and Consumer Sciences agent with UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County

There are still three months left in hurricane season, and now that Hurricane Dorian has come and gone from Florida, it is time to revisit emergency plans and procedures. Regardless of how quiet the season has been so far, it is not over yet, and it is important to have a disaster preparedness plan in place to be ready for the next storm.

Residents may have emergency supply kits in place for themselves, but how prepared are family pets? Emergency pet kits are an important part of an overall emergency plan, and entails more than just packing a little extra food and water.

First, consider the kit itself. What should go into it? At least three days' worth of food for each pet is recommended, though in Northeast Florida, it may be advisable to keep more on hand. Along with water for human family members, be sure to keep extra on hand for pets. A day's supply of water for dogs less than 50 pounds is 1 ounce per pound. Larger dogs need a gallon of water each day. Since cats are generally smaller, their daily supply is only 0.5 ounce of water per pound.

Clean towels or bedding should be included in the emergency pet kit to clean up after or to handle nervous or scared pets. It is important to help keep the pet as calm and comfortable as possible.

Always keep current medical records and medications close at hand in an emergency. Pet-friendly shelters will only allow pets that are current on their vaccinations into the shelter.

In the chaos of an emergency, it can be easy to lose track of pets. Incorporating them into our disaster plan can help keep them safe during and after an emergency.

Extra litter and disposable litter boxes for cats are important as well, especially when staying at a shelter. Even cats that usually go outside should be kept in-



Photo by Amber Lake

doors immediately after a storm or other emergency to prevent loss or injury. Having clean litter will be vital.

Having a separate first-aid kit for pets is recommended; though incorporating extra supplies in the family's primary first-aid kit will also work. The same types of items, such as cotton bandages, tape and antibiotic ointments used by people are also used on pets.

Besides an emergency pet kit, it is important to keep an updated list of friends, family, shelters and hotels that will allow pets, preferably outside the immediate evacuation area. Include phone numbers, addresses and driving directions in case GPS does not work. Keep a hard copy of the list in the emergency kit.

Unable to get to a pet in time? Make arrangements with a friend or neighbor who may be able to take care of any pets until it is safe to return to them.

KEEP PETS SAFE AND COMFORTABLE

Microchipping is important no matter what, but the likelihood of a pet becom-

ing lost greatly increases during and after an emergency. Make sure the information embedded in the microchip is up to date. Veterinarians, shelters and animal rescues can scan the pet's microchip and hopefully get them safely back home.

In the chaos of an emergency, it is easy to lose track of pets. Getting them comfortable being in a crate or carrier before disaster strikes will make it easier to keep them safe during and after an emergency. Practice getting them used to it now so he or she will go easily into their safe enclosure when the time comes.

Pets are an important part of life for many of us. Keeping them safe during and after an emergency should be of primary concern. Creating an emergency pet kit and building protocols for pets into our disaster plans can help ensure a smoother transition and recovery for everyone.

For more information about preparing pets for an emergency, call Samantha Kennedy at (850) 926-3931.

How to handle prolonged power outages

Accidents and storms can disrupt the electricity that powers everything in homes and businesses. A short-term loss of power can be a nuisance, but extended power outages can cause damage and may even be dangerous.

Widespread power outages are often anticipated during or after severe storms, which can disable entire power grids. Because damaged power lines and infrastructure must be carefully assessed after severe storms, it may take anywhere from hours to several days before power is fully restored.

The Food and Drug Administration says food spoilage is one of the hazards of long-term power outages. If a storm is imminent, you can be proactive by freezing the contents of the refrigerator when possible so that items can stay at safe temperatures longer, advises the FDA. Food can remain safe for up to two hours at refrigerator temperature before it starts to spoil. Grouping food together in the freezer also can help it stay colder longer. Having extra ice on hand or freezing containers of water also can provide a chilling effect, as well as serve as a water supply if faucet water is unavailable — which can be a concern for those with well-pumped water.

Your barbecue can turn out to be your best friend during power outages. Many stoves, even gas ones, will not light because of electric ignitions. A gas camping stove or barbecue can serve as the primary place to cook food until power is restored. Always have a secondary propane tank on hand.

Keep plenty of bottled water on hand, especially if your water supply is well-fed and requires an electric pump to activate flow.

Stock up on blankets and warm clothing. Power outages during the winter can be especially challenging because of the lack of heat in a home. Family members can huddle together in small rooms to conserve heat. People with wood-burning stoves can use them to keep warm. Fireplaces tend to be more show than ambient heat providers, but they can still serve as a heat source in a pinch.

If you have a generator, run it safely. The Consumer Product Safety Commission says generators should be operated as far away from the house as possible to avoid deadly carbon monoxide fumes. Also, use appropriately-gauged, outdoor-rated extension cords to power up generators.

It is also important to stay put and avoid the road after a storm that causes a power outage. Wires may be down, traffic lights may not work and dangerous debris may be littering the roads. Hunkering down is the best approach until power is restored.

Flooding

Continued from 18

■ China's Yellow River valley has been home to some of the worst floods in history.

■ Flood waters can quickly knock people off their feet and carry them away.

■ It's important to sanitize oneself after coming in contact with flood water, which could be contaminated with vari-

ous natural and manmade substances.

■ It may be necessary to move to higher ground when flooding situations occur. It's important to heed safety precautions and evacuation messages.

■ Rapidly moving water has the potential to carry a house, car, trees or other structures away.

■ Drivers should not try to navigate through flood waters. Many deaths that occur during floods happen when drivers try to move through flood waters.

■ It's imperative to keep an emergency kit, nonperishable food, flashlights, and batteries on hand to combat potential disasters like floods.

■ Flood damage is not necessarily covered by homeowners insurance. Those who live in high-risk flood zones would be wise to purchase flood insurance to protect themselves.

Floods can be formidable foes. Armed with information, people can be safer when the waters rise.

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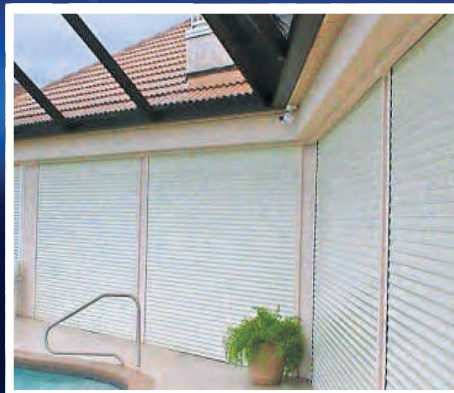
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Business Weekly

PAGE 23 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Column: Why taking paternity leave is the right choice

Page 25

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Photo by Alice Steele

Mary Stewart (left) and Heather Burky-Lechwar decided to open a Board & Brush Creative Studio while taking a workshop at another location.

Owners put heart and soul into new studio

Board & Brush Creative Studio hosted its grand opening Sept. 14

From the outside, it looks like a charming shop with an artsy feel. Once inside, there's no mistaking this is a place for creativity to blossom, do-it-yourself confidence to take hold and memories to be made. The Ponte Vedra Beach Board & Brush Creative Studio, located at 840 A1A North, Suite 150, hosted its grand opening Saturday, Sept. 14 with gift bags for the first 50 people and a chance to win a private VIP sign-making party for six valued at more than \$400. Attendees got the first look inside the studio decorated with lots of signs to get the creative juices flowing. Workshops started the following day.

Novices will feel right at home at Board & Brush thanks to the instructor-led format of the workshops during which attendees are guided through the ins and outs of power tools, paint, art and assembly, with all materials supplied by the

studio. Each workshop lasts about three hours and crafters can select from hundreds of design templates, with new ones added each month. The company works with top graphic designers around the country to create the designs, most with a vintage farmhouse look. Workshop cost is \$68 and pre-registration is required.

Workshop attendees will see two long-time friends at the helm – Heather Burky-Lechwar and Mary Stewart. Appropriately, the two met in high school art class. They went to B&B workshop together in December for Burky-Lechwar's birthday.

"We were both experiencing the stress of the holidays and walked in a bit cranky," Burky-Lechwar said. "By the time we got to distressing the wood and painting the sign, we were all laughing."

Burky-Lechwar made a sign that featured a calendar for recipes that would go perfectly in her farmhouse kitchen and that reminded her of her grandmother. Stewart selected a design with the location coordinates of her house with an outline of the state of Florida.

STUDIO continues on Page 30

Varsity Blues: Part II



Janet Johnson
Guest Columnist

Will Aunt Becky wind up in jail? If actress Felicity Huffman's sentencing in the Varsity Blues college admission scheme on Sept. 13 is an indication, it's likely. But the bigger question is: Do they deserve it and how much is enough?

Prosecutors have charged 51 people in the Federal college admissions case, including coaches, a college counselor and his employees, and 34 parents whose children allegedly gained admis-

sions to elite colleges based on fraudulent pretenses. Those schemes ranged from, in Lori Laughlin's case, faking evidence that her daughter was a stellar rowing team member, even though she had never participated in the sport, to knowingly hiring others to take standardized tests for their children. The latter was what Felicity Huffman pleaded to and for which she was sentenced to 14 days in jail, followed by probation to pay a \$30,000 fine and perform 250 hours in community service. To date, 15 of the 34 parents have pleaded guilty, and those who haven't can expect significantly more time than Huffman if

JOHNSON continues on Page 27

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Dan Armstrong

Local attorney among '10 Best'

Dan Armstrong recognized for client satisfaction by AIOLC

The American Institute of Legal Counsel has recognized the exceptional performance of Florida attorney Dan Armstrong as 2019 10 Best Elder Law Attorney for Client Satisfaction.

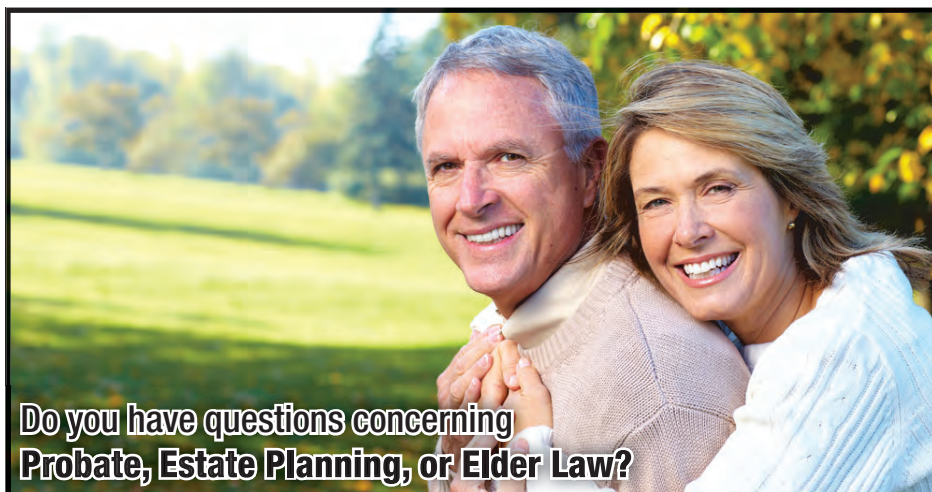
The American Institute of Legal Counsel is a third-party attorney rating organization that publishes an annual list of the Top 10

Elder Law Attorney in each state. Attorneys who are selected to the "10 Best" list must pass AIOLC's rigorous selection process, which is based on client and/or peer nominations, thorough research, and AIOLC's independent evaluation. AIOLC's annual list was created to be used as a resource for clients during the attorney selection process.

One of the most significant aspects of the selection process involves attorneys' relationships and reputation among his or her clients. As clients should be an attorney's top

priority, AIOLC places the utmost emphasis on selecting lawyers who have achieved significant success in the field of Elder Law without sacrificing the service and support they provide. Selection criteria therefore focus on attorneys who demonstrate the highest standards of client satisfaction.

Armstrong, of the Law Offices of Dan W. Armstrong, P.A., is an elder law attorney serving Ponte Vedra Beach who specializes in elder law, estate planning and corporate law.



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Paternity leave: I did it and you should, too



Alessandro Apolito
Guest Columnist

This year, I celebrated my first Father's Day and feel compelled to share the choice I made to take paternity leave.

On Aug. 20, my life changed forever. My wife, Lauren, gave birth to our twin boys, Valentino and Massimo. Their birth was the best thing that has happened in our lives.

Before their arrival, we had to make many important decisions, including the hospital at which my wife was going to give birth, whether or not to vaccinate them, making sure we had enough diapers and wipes, and choosing the right shade of blue for the nursery.

As an attorney, I had another big decision to make: Should I take paternity leave after they were born?

Like all good lawyers trying to answer a question, I did my research. I reviewed the employee handbook of the firm I was with, I asked other fathers and read articles online.

My former firm had a parental leave policy, which was consistent with the Family and Medical Leave Act, but left pay during leave up to the discretion of the management committee. Other fathers I talked to took anywhere from one day to two weeks of leave after the birth of their children.

I gathered from speaking with fathers that taking paternity leave was frowned upon or regarded as something that men, especially lawyers, do not do.

That stance became so obvious during my discussions with some fathers that I began to feel guilty for considering taking paternity leave.

According to fatherly.com, 92 countries offer paternity leave, but the U.S. does not. Further, only a few states mandate paid parental leave: New York, California, New Jersey, New Hampshire and Washington, D.C., have laws in place requiring employers to provide paid leave to employees.

Therefore, it is no surprise that so many fathers shy away from taking meaningful paternity leave. Our culture does not

APOLITO continues on **Page 27**



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If you're happy and you know it wag your tail

Cypress Village unveils newly renovated dog park

Tails were wagging and residents smiling at Cypress Village during their grand opening event for the Cypress Dog Park earlier this month. The senior living community unveiled its newly renovated dog park with a “Doggies and Donuts” event. Canines and their humans enjoyed refreshments and great company as they gathered in the new park.

“It’s their home, too and we want to make sure our pets are just as happy to be here as any other resident,” Katie Amador, director of resident programs at Cypress Village said.

The new space is likely to be a popular attraction for residents with furry friends with the dog days of summer behind us and cooler temperatures ahead. Cypress Village is a Jacksonville retirement community dedicated to creating a lifestyle of comfort and convenience for residents, and this latest addition is part of the continued expansion taking place at the community. Furry friends are included in many of the activities that take place on the grounds, including an annual Halloween Pet Parade in October and a Patriotic Pet’s Parade on the 4th of July. Many Cypress Village residents have



Photo courtesy of Cypress Village

Eneida spends time with her dog Elvis at Cypress Village’s newly renovated dog park.

pets in the family, and the new dog park will serve as a place to enjoy the outdoors and socialize with friends and neighbors.

Located adjacent to the Mayo Clinic, Cypress Village has homes and apartments on a 120-acre campus. For more information, call (904) 223-6100.

Local certified insurance service representative earns state award

Kristin Hurst named Florida’s 2019 Outstanding CSR of the Year

The National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research has announced that Kristin Hurst, Certified Insurance Service Representative, is the 2019 Outstanding CSR of the Year recipient for the state of Florida.

To qualify for this top state honor, Hurst submitted the winning essay on the topic, “Many agencies recognize the professionalism and knowledge of Account Managers and CSRs who successfully weave sales into their day-to-day responsibilities. Please summarize the sales training (if any) you’ve received from your agency or company and discuss what you believe are the three (3) most effective sales techniques or tools that make you a better Account Manager/CSR.”

Additionally, Hurst was selected for having demonstrated outstanding service and professionalism within the insurance community.

Hurst began her insurance career in North Carolina in June of 2001. She relocated to Florida in 2006 where she decided to finish college. She completed her bachelor’s degree from Jacksonville University with a double major in psychology and sociology. In 2011, she went to work at a local insurance agency in Fleming Island, Florida. She has been working in the St. Augustine, Florida area since 2014, and then joined The Browning Agency (Ponte Vedra and Hastings) in February 2018. In 2018, Hurst completed her coursework earning



Kristin Hurst

the CISR designation. She is a valued agent at The Browning Agency, and is currently working on finishing her CIC designation.

“Kristin Hurst was chosen as a state winner for exemplifying the characteristics and qualifications required to be eligible for the prestigious National Outstanding CSR of the Year Award,” stated William T. Hold, President of

The National Alliance. “She represents the backbone of the insurance community, those customer service representatives distinguished for providing exceptional service on a daily basis.”

Hurst receives a framed certificate, embossed with the special Outstanding CSR of the Year bronze medallion symbol, and is now one of 38 individuals eligible for the national honor. The National Outstanding CSR of the Year Award includes a \$2,000 cash prize and a scholarship for the recipient’s employer to any program offered by The National Alliance. The national winner also receives a distinctive gold and diamond lapel pin cast with the Outstanding CSR of the Year emblem. Additionally, the winner’s name will be inscribed on a sculpture permanently displayed at the national headquarters in Austin, Texas.

For more information about The Browning Agency of Ponte Vedra Inc., call (904) 285-3430 or visit browningagency.com.

What can a financial advisor do for you?



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

What does investing mean to you? If the word makes you think of transactions – buying or selling stocks and bonds – you’re looking at just part of the picture. To work toward all your goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you need a comprehensive financial strategy. And for that, you might need to work with a personal financial advisor. But what, specifically, can this type of

professional do for you?

Here are some of the key services a financial advisor can provide:

Help invest for retirement: An experienced financial advisor can look at all the relevant factors – your current and projected income, age at which you’d like to retire, desired retirement lifestyle – to help you determine how much you need to invest, and in which investment vehicles, to help you reach your retirement goals. To cite just one example, a financial advisor can review your employer-sponsored retirement plan and help you determine how to use it to your greatest advantage.

Help save for college: Higher education is expensive, and costs are rising every year. If you’d like to help your children — or grandchildren — go to college someday, you need to save and invest early and often. A financial advisor can suggest appropriate college savings vehicles and strategies.

Help make sure you’re well-protected: If something were to happen to you, could your family maintain its standard of living? Or if you someday needed some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home, would you be able to maintain your financial independence, or would you be forced to rely on your adult children for help? A financial advisor can recommend and possibly provide suitable protection products and services for your needs.

Help adjust your financial strategy: Not much will stay constant in your life — and that includes your financial strategy. Any number of events — a new child, a new job, a new retirement destination — can cause you to adjust your investment moves, as will some of the factors influencing the financial markets – economic downturns, changing interest rates, new tax laws and more. A financial advisor can help you change course as needed – and sometimes encourage you not to change course, when, in his or her professional opinion, you might be tempted to overreact to some event or other.

While a financial advisor can help you in many ways, you’ll need, above all else, to feel comfortable with whomever you choose. Ultimately, you’ll want to pick someone who understands what’s important to you, and who will follow an established process to create personalized strategies and recommend specific actions needed to help achieve your goals. And you’ll want someone who will be with you in the long run — someone who will revisit your objectives and risk tolerance and who can adjust your strategies in response to changes in your life.

A financial advisor can make a big difference in your life. So, work diligently to find the right one — and take full advantage of the help you’ll receive as you move toward your important goals.

Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. For information, call (904) 285-9898. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

The 10 highest divorce rate states in the U.S.



Harry Pappas
Columnist

Perhaps like you, I have read and been told far too many times that half of all marriages end in divorce. However, a Dec. 4, 2016, Time Magazine article suggests that divorce rates are actually falling, not rising.

Time sites recent data from the National Survey of Family Growth, which suggests that the U.S. divorce rate dropped in 2015 for the third year in a row, reaching its lowest point in nearly 40 years. According to insider.com, a University of Maryland professor found that the U.S. divorce rate dropped 18% from 2008 to 2016. Regardless of who you believe concerning the direction of divorce rates, going through this traumatic ordeal is often a very sad day for both individuals.

Perhaps Mark Twain was spot on when he said, “If you don’t read the newspaper, you’re uninformed. If you read the news-

paper, you’re misinformed.”

Nevertheless, I suggest that nobody is immune from the possibility of getting divorced. To underscore, my position, according to nydailynews.com, the world’s oldest divorcée is a 99-year-old Italian man and his 96-year-old (ex) wife. He divorced her after 60 years of marriage when he found love letters she had written to her lover in the 1940s. They married in 1934 and divorced in 2011.

With the help of INSIDER’s data team, and the CDC statistics on divorce, INSIDER ranked the 25 states with the highest divorce rates and the top 10 from that list are below. As you will see, Nevada takes home the “prize” for being the No. 1 state for divorce, which works out to about 20 divorces to 1,000 married people. According to World Atlas, Iowa has the lowest rate of divorce in the U.S. with only 1.3 divorces per 1,000 couples, which is a stark contrast from our friends in Nevada.

10. West Virginia
8. Alaska
8. Florida
5. Alabama

5. Arkansas
5. Kentucky
4. Idaho
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Apolito

Continued from 25

entirely support it and you are not likely to get paid.

After more research, I realized the right amount of paternity leave was a personal choice that is unique to each person’s situation.

I needed to decide the amount of time that would allow me to start establishing a connection with my sons, help my wife and sons as much as I could, start learning how to be a father and to love them as much as I could without any distraction. I decided to take one month paid paternity leave.

When I delivered the news to my firm, I received full support. My colleagues, both attorneys and staff, covered all of my work while I was gone. I will always be grateful to them for allowing me to do this.

The day after my sons were born, I disabled my work email on my phone, put my computer away and embarked on an amazing, yet very difficult, nearly uninterrupted month of paternity leave. I focused on being a father and husband, while my colleagues managed my clients and workload. Just as I expected, when I returned, everything was in order and my “work world” was still revolving on its axis.

In fact, when I returned, my colleagues and clients were eager to hear about my newborns and see pictures. No one expressed any resentment that I took leave.

To all employers, I strongly urge you to support your expecting male attorneys to take a meaningful paternity leave. You can attract great employees and build loyalty to your firm.

As a partner at a law firm, I know the potential logistical issues this could cause for your office and the financial implications of paying someone who is not producing.

However, with high turnover in the practice of law, employers should consider offering meaningful paternity leave as a way to attract and retain talented lawyers. High turnover is much more expensive for an employer than a reasonable amount of paternity leave for an employee.



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

My advice to future fathers is to try to take as much paternity time as possible without compromising your employment. If you cannot take all of your leave at once, consider breaking it up into two parts.

I know this is easier said than done, but for those who fear judgment or retribution from their employers and colleagues, ask yourself if that is the type of office you want to be associated with in your career.

I realize that my stance on paternity leave may not be widely accepted in the legal community. The purpose of sharing my story is to shed light on a topic that is taboo despite the fact that it is relevant to all families.

I want to encourage and empower new fathers to choose precious time with their newborn over billable hours and work. If you don’t do it now, you could set yourself up to choose work over family more than you want to in the future.

The column first appeared in the Jacksonville Daily Record.

Alessandro Apolito is a partner at Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman who practices in the area of trusts and estates.

Johnson

Continued from 23

they are convicted. But how much is enough?

As a criminal defense attorney, I would argue that 14 days in jail is just enough to disrupt and possibly ruin someone’s life, but not enough to serve as a deterrent. I have certainly argued that a crime like Ms. Huffman’s does not warrant jail, and that her contrition and lack of prior criminal record weigh in favor of a non-incarcerative sentence. But, prosecutors in the Varsity Blues made a persuasive argument for incarceration, mainly based on other comparable cases. The U.S. Attorney cited a case in which Atlanta teachers and school administrators were convicted in a conspiracy to cheat on standardized tests and they received as much as three years in prison; all of the defendants were African American. (NY Times, Sept. 13, 2019, “Felicity Huffman Sentenced to 14 Days Behind Bars”). The Government pointed to another case in Ohio, in which an African American mother was sentenced to five years in prison for using her father’s address to enroll her children in a suburban school district.

Celebrity, race, wealth have all, historically, led to favorable treatment in the criminal justice system.

The judge, in pronouncing Huffman’s sentence, seemed mindful of not appearing to favor her because of her position in society, when she said, “Trying to be a good mother doesn’t excuse this. A person in a position of wealth and the position you are in is in a much easier position in this meritocracy. I do think this is the right sentence here... [It allows] you to move forward and you can rebuild your life after this. You pay your dues.”

Judge Talwani added, however, that without a term of incarceration, Huffman would face a future of “the community asking you why you got away with this.” But the question remains, what does the community make of a jail sentence of 14 days? And the issue, to this defense lawyer, isn’t why doesn’t Huffman get more? It’s, why doesn’t the mom in Ohio get less?

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Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL "Blood, Breath & Tears" annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson has been awarded the AV preeminent rating™ from Martindale-Hubble® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys. She also appears as a legal commentator on CNN and HLN.

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SAiRA to kick off weeklong St. Augustine culinary celebration

St. Augustine Independent Restaurant Association kicks off two culinary events in October. First, SAiRA's Food and Wine Festival is set for Oct. 6. St. Augustine's Restaurant Week follows the week of Oct. 7 to 13, giving diners opportunities to enjoy specially-prepared dishes from many of the city's popular restaurants.

A dozen independently-owned restaurants throughout St. Augustine will present special lunch and dinner menu experiences for Restaurant Week. 2019 marks the fourth year of this annual culinary event when diners can try a variety of cuisines and flavors prepared by local chefs at SAiRA member restaurants.

Lunch menu experiences are \$20. Dinner menu experiences are \$35. Participants can pick up a Restaurant Week Passport at any SAiRA member establishment listed at StAugustineRestaurants.com/RestaurantWeek. Diners who receive passport stamps from four different restaurants throughout the week will get \$25 off at a fifth SAiRA member restaurant.

St. Augustine's Restaurant Week immediately follows SAiRA's Food and Wine Festival held on Oct. 6 at the River House



Photo courtesy of SAiRA

SAiRA's Food & Wine Festival provides guests opportunities to explore dishes from SAiRA member restaurants plus over 100 wines.

on 179 Marine Street. Guests can feast on foods from locally owned restaurants and sample over 100 wines. This year, the event will feature a VIP-only reception providing early access, featured dishes and champagne reception. 2019 marks the 10th year SAiRA has hosted the Food and

Wine Festival, which benefits the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida. For ticket information, visit StAugustineRestaurants.com/food-wine-festival.

"Between the two events, it's a week-long culinary celebration of St. Augustine's best local restaurants. Both events

are exciting opportunities for people to sample the creative, delicious and flavorful foods available at SAiRA member restaurants," Jeremy Ticehurst, president of SAiRA said.

SAiRA membership is made up of independently-owned restaurants located in St. Augustine. The association's mission includes building relationships through the sharing of information and supporting local independent restaurants.

Member restaurants work side by side to help each other exceed the expectations of their guests and advance St. Augustine's unique culinary and cultural diversity. Together, they leverage resources and hospitality to financially and physically support organizations throughout the St. Augustine community. Additionally, members support the SAiRA Foundation, a nonprofit organization committed to helping workers within the hospitality industry in times of extreme need and to promote hospitality-based education.

For more information about SAiRA and its events, send an email to info@StAugustineRestaurants.com or call (904) 540-3129.

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1. *Like Freddy Krueger's fingertips
6. Roman goddess of fertility
9. Late comedian Bob
13. Painter's support
14. Ornamental pond dweller
15. New York's amusement Island
16. *Morticia to Fester
17. Not decaf.
18. * ___ hell, or cause trouble
19. *Bram Stoker creation
21. *Día de los ___
23. Geological period
24. Queen of Spades, e.g.
25. It's all the rage
28. *Like Zombie's skin color
30. Fine-___ pen
35. Miners' passage
37. Marinate, e.g.
39. Miss America's topper
40. Unacceptable
41. Proprietor
43. Jet black
44. One thousand in a kilogram
46. Country dance formation
47. Cincinnati players
48. Croatia's neighbor
50. Shower with affection
52. *Horror movie actor Christopher
53. Fireplace conduit
55. French vineyard
57. *Like some Mansions
61. *Paris Opéra House inhabitant
65. Come to terms
66. Indigo extract
68. Quickly fry
69. Sucrose
70. Long time
71. "Sesame Street" Muppet
72. Jury colleague
73. Tire depression
74. Slap

DOWN

1. Email button
2. *Medusa's snakes
3. Between ports for short
5. Lung-covering membrane
6. Southern stew staple
7. *Author known as Master of the Macabre
8. Fraternal letter
9. Gray-haired
10. "Put a lid ___!"
11. Acapulco money
12. *Coraline's buttons

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

15. Kudos
20. Rodeo rope
22. *Crematorium jar
24. *Jonestown poison
25. *Vampire's canines
26. Love intensely
27. 1/100 of a rial
29. *Werewolf's cry
31. *Coffin's stand
32. Confusion of voices
33. Wear away
34. * ___ Macabre
36. *Mummy's home
38. Lotto variant
42. Throw up
45. Flour fluffer
49. A in IPA
51. Wipes blackboard
54. Bovine milk dispenser
56. Render harmless
57. Door fastener
58. Chills and fever
59. Strong desire
60. Getting warm
61. Closely confined
62. Chicken of the sea?
63. Related to ear
64. Spiritless
67. *"He Knows ___'re Alone"

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dish **ALTIMETER**

Studio

Continued from 23

“I had a difficult time selecting a design, there were so many I liked that I wanted to go back and make eight more after that,” Stewart said.

Before the two left the studio, they decided they were going to open a Board & Brush in Ponte Vedra Beach. Stewart

mentioned a bit of serendipity in that workshop encounter.

“Turns out I knew the owner of that particular Board & Brush in Saint Johns, Florida, and she provided great information on the business and, here we are, eight months later, opening our own studio,” Stewart said.

Both women are artsy types. Burky-Lechwar is a filmmaker and photographer and a DIYer.

“I redid my whole kitchen so you might call me an extreme DIYer,” laughed Burky-Lechwar. Stewart, an occupational therapist by trade, will now be focusing her energy on Board & Brush. “Any spare moment I had I was painting and rehabbing anything I could get my hands on, that’s my therapy, so I think of this new business venture as very therapeutic for me and for everyone who attends workshops,” Stewart said.

It didn’t hurt that owning a business was on both of their bucket lists.

“We’re putting our heart and soul into Board & Brush,” Stewart said.

While the owners are crafty types, they made a point to say you needn’t be an artist to do this, given the designs are stencil-based. “The creativity comes in selecting the design and the colors,” noted Stewart. “You’re creating something from scratch that you’re proud to display so it’s the best of both worlds.” The two mentioned how Board & Brush signs are nice for gifting too. “If you receive one, I guarantee you’ll never regift it,” chuckled Burky-Lechwar.

The Ponte Vedra Beach studio is located in the Corridors shopping plaza near the beach with cute cafés nearby. Inside the studio has a “coastal rustic theme” according to the owners, with floors that have the look of driftwood and signs hanging on the walls that speak to the area. Both women anticipate the beach-themed signs will be popular as well as the golf signs.

Burky-Lechwar and Stewart have already been busy fulfilling donation requests from local charities serving the homeless, those with juvenile diabetes and families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Area non-profits interested in hosting a fundraising workshop should contact the studio directly.

For more information or to register for a workshop, visit boardandbrush.com/pontevedrabeach.



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Local travel advisor joins 'The 1%'

Lindsay Hardy from Travel Leaders completes in-depth training program with leading tour and cruise company

Lindsay Hardy, a travel advisor from Travel Leaders in Ponte Vedra Beach, recently completed an in-depth training program with Tauck, joining less than 1% of the company's worldwide network of travel agents who have successfully completed the program. Founded in 1925, Tauck is a leader in premium quality guided travel with more than 120 land journeys and cruises to more than 70 countries and all seven continents. The company has been named both the "World's Best Tour Operator & Safari Outfitter" and the "World's Best River Cruise Line" three times by the readers of Travel + Leisure magazine.

Lindsay was enrolled in the company's agent training program Tauck Academy, and by successfully completing its cur-

riculum, she becomes a Tauck Certified agent who qualifies for special benefits and other exclusive opportunities provided by the company. Tauck Academy includes nine hours of intensive classroom training followed by a comprehensive exam. Topics covered include Tauck's history, details of the company's extensive product line, and what separates Tauck's tours and cruises from those of its competitors.

Travel Leaders is a full-service travel agency located at 2 Fairfield Blvd, Suite 3, in Ponte Vedra Beach. Started in 1999, the company offers both leisure and corporate travel services, with special areas of focus including luxury cruises, family reunions and destination weddings. For more information, call (904) 642-6909 or visit www.TLJAX.com.

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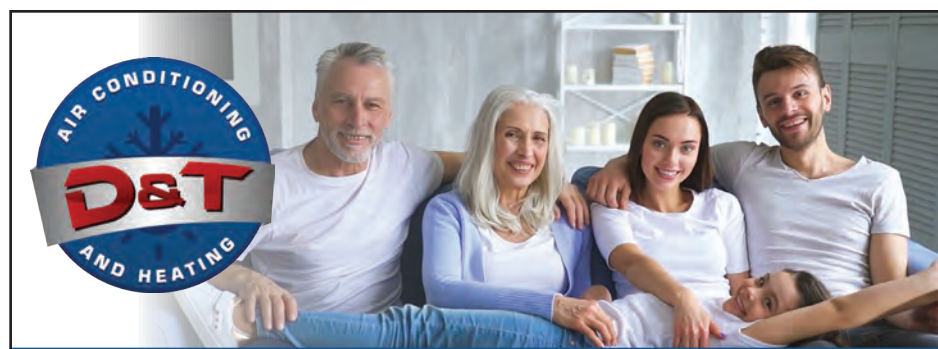
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REVIEW

'Brighton Beach Memoirs' at Alhambra is a reminder of what really matters

By Paris Moulden

Admittedly, I don't know very much about the inner workings of a 15-year-old boy's mind, so "Brighton Beach Memoirs," currently playing at Alhambra Theatre & Dining, offered some compelling — and hilarious — insight.

The semi-autobiographical play written by Neil Simon, focuses on Eugene Jerome, a precocious teen growing up during the 1930s, who longs to be a writer, and spends much of his time fantasizing about playing baseball for the New York Yankees — and about his 16-year-old cousin Nora.

Eugene (Evan Gray) lives in quaint home in Brighton Beach, New York, with his parents Kate (Hillary Hickam) and Jack (Robert Herrle), his 18-year-old brother Stanley (Cameron Hale Elliott), his Aunt Blanche (Stacey Harris) and her two daughters, Nora (Kelly Wolfe) and 13-year-old Laurie (Emma Decker), who suffers from heart "flutters." Eugene narrates much of the play from his perspective, including what he perceives as constant nagging and disapproval from his mother and his burgeoning interest in girls, especially his pretty cousin.

The real centerpiece of the story, however, isn't Eugene's experiences and thoughts, but the delicate balance of the family dynamic, such as juggling feelings of responsibility, financial turmoil,



The cast of "Brighton Beach Memoirs" perform during the play at Alhambra Theatre & Dining. The show runs through Oct. 13.

Photos courtesy of Alhambra Theatre & Dining

past hurts and an unknown future with unconditional love and dedication to each other.

Eugene's dad Jack works himself almost to death to take care of the family financially, but still manages to offer helpful advice, compassion and words of wisdom, while mom Kate feels responsible for everything running smoothly in the home, even as she often feels overwhelmed and unappreciated.

The actors in Alhambra's performance did a spectacular job with their roles, from the spot-on New York accents to displaying the genuine emotion of a family enduring misfortune while maintaining love and devotion for one another. The costume and set design felt authentic and conveyed the proper time and place.

Gray, who plays, Eugene, is a perfect fit, looking and acting every bit the energetic, curious and whimsical 15-year-old

protagonist. Hickam also has a standout performance as the beleaguered Kate, whose obvious stress and worrying is balanced by her inner resolve and family devotion.

In between Eugene's generally humorous personal commentary, were some truly heartfelt and heartbreaking moments, including Kate's built-up resentment toward her widowed sister, Blanche's indecisiveness and loneliness, Stanley's fear and pain of disappointing his parents and Nora's feelings of abandonment after the death of her father.

By the end, I felt I did get to see into the mind of a 15-year-old boy (scary), but, more importantly, I felt like I got to be part of the Jeromes' resilient, wonderful family.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" at Alhambra runs through Oct. 13. For more information, go to alhambrajax.com.

'Twelve Angry Men' showing at Theatre Jacksonville

A dozen men serve on a jury to decide the fate of a Puerto Rican teenager accused of murdering his abusive father. The jury must return a unanimous verdict. Only one juror thinks the boy might be innocent. Curious what happens?

The iconic courtroom drama "Twelve Angry Men," which debuted in 1955 and has received numerous tributes and accolades, is now showing at Theatre Jacksonville, ushering in the theater's 100th anniversary season. The show runs through Sept. 29 as this year's Theatre Jacksonville Classic in San Marco. Tickets are deeply discounted at \$22 for general public and \$12 for students.

"This play is an excellent offering to kick off our 100th anniversary season because it appeals to a wide audience," said Theatre Jacksonville Executive Director Sarah Boone. "The story was adapted from an Emmy award-winning television movie, and it has a number of timeless themes — including the presumption of guilt, race relations and criminal justice. We cannot think of a better way to introduce our exciting 100th anniversary season than featuring this classic drama."

Subscriptions for the 100th anniversary season are \$110 for a regular adult, with a family package priced at \$270 for two adults and one child. Seniors, students and military subscriptions are \$95. In addition to \$16 discount tickets for "Twelve Angry Men," subscription packages include MainStage season productions:

- "Something Rotten" — A musical comedy, set in the 1590s, about two playwrights stuck in the shadow of "The Bard."
- "Shadowlands" — A West End and Broadway hit, named Best New Play in 1990, telling the love story of C.S. Lewis and American poet Joy Davidman.
- "Love Quest" — A clever romantic comedy about the journey of two women into online dating.
- "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner" — A comedy of manners based on the acclaimed screenplay made famous by Spencer Tracy, Sydney Poitier and Katherine Hepburn.
- "Matilda" — A captivating musical masterpiece from the Royal Shakespeare Company based on the bestselling Roald Dahl children's book.

Theatre Jacksonville is also embarking on a 100th Anniversary Endowment Campaign. The fund has already exceeded \$600,000, which includes a matching gift from the Weaver Family Foundation. The goal is to reach \$1 million by the end of 2019. To purchase tickets for "Twelve Angry Men" or make a donation to the 100th Anniversary Endowment, visit www.theatrejax.com.

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Jacksonville Symphony to present 5 October concerts

Following Fanfare! Opening Night, the Jacksonville Symphony will begin the first full month of its season with five concerts. From Beethoven to Harry Potter in Concert, the Symphony will perform concerts for a wide variety of audiences.



Oct. 4 and 5 – Beethoven’s Pastoral Symphony

Florida Blue Masterworks
Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

The season-long Beethoven celebration starts with the most unique of his symphonies. Beethoven’s love of the beauty and power of nature shines through in his “Pastoral.” Smetana captures the majesty of mountains, the mystery of forests and the sound and spirit of the mighty Moldau. Courtney Lewis will lead the orchestra for the first Florida Blue Masterworks Series concert of the season.

Every Masterworks concert is preceded by a pre-concert lecture starting at 7 p.m. Music Director Courtney Lewis will guide audiences through the evening’s music and answer questions in an informal discussion setting.



Oct. 12 and 13 – Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban in Concert

Symphonic Night at the Movies
Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

Relive the magic of your favorite wizard in “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban” in Concert. Based on the third installment of J.K. Rowling’s class saga, the thrilling tale is accompanied by the music of a live symphony orchestra as Harry soars across the big screen. The performance will be conducted by Symphony Assistant Conductor Deanna Tham and will feature the Jacksonville Symphony Chorus.

Oct. 18 and 19 – Hooray for Hollywood

Raymond James Coffee Series Concert
Friday at 11 a.m. Fidelity National Financial Pops, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

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music from the scores of some of the greatest movies of all time. From Max Steiner to John Williams, relive your favorite films through their iconic songs and scores with the Jacksonville Symphony.

The Jacksonville Symphony’s Friday Morning Coffee Concerts feature an abbreviated, one-hour performance preceded by complimentary coffee and cookies for patrons.



Oct. 20 – Spooktacular Family Concert

Family Series
Sunday at 3 p.m., Family Activities at 2 p.m.

Join the Symphony for a Halloween concert that’s fun for the whole family. Patrons are welcome to come dressed in their Halloween costume for a costume contest, trick-or-treating, spooky crafts and our Instrument Zoo – an interactive, hands-on experience with all the instruments of the orchestra. This will be the first of three Family Series Concerts throughout the 2019-2020 season.

Oct. 25 and 26 – Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2

Florida Blue Masterworks
Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Brahms’ colossal Second Piano Concerto interlaces tremendous virtuosity with the haunting lyricism that is one of his great calling cards. The Symphony welcomes pianist Natasha Paremski to perform this difficult work. Music from Janáček’s lighthearted opera, *Cunning Little Vixen*, opens the evening and is followed by Lutosławski’s Symphony No. 4.



All performances listed will take place in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts’ Jacoby Symphony Hall.

To purchase tickets, visit www.JaxSymphony.org or call (904) 354-5547. Masterworks and Pops tickets start at \$19.

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NOV. 23	MASON JENNINGS	FEB. 28	STEEP CANYON RANGERS
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DEC. 10	A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS w/ EUGE GROOVE, VINCENT INGALA & LINDSEY WEBSTER	APR. 2	LEE ANN WOMACK
DEC. 19	A ROCKAPPELLA HOLIDAY	APR. 11	DAVE MASON
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Sports



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 · PAGE 35

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Fans celebrate as Jags earn first win behind defense, mustached Minshew

By Daniela Toporek

After the first two games resulting in utter loss and disappointment, the Jacksonville Jaguars picked up their helmets (and the ball) and stormed through the Tennessee Titans, resulting in a 20-7 victory, all while hosting the NFL Network on their own turf and regaining the city's former title of "Sacksonville."

Fans were amped up at the Slab on Thursday, Sept. 19, a popular tailgating area for passionate groups such as Teal Street Hooligans and Bold City Brigade. The NFL Network heard of their dedication and traditional "circle ups," shot-gunning beer every 30 minutes before

the game (Yes, every 30 minutes.) and chanting "We are Jaguars" and "DUUUU-VAL," a warning call for those not realizing what they're getting into at the intersection of Duval and Bryan Street.

"Being able to show off on national TV is a huge deal," said eight-year Hooligan, Matt Moses. "We are such a tight-knit fan base. I know everyone puts so much work into the tailgates. It's awesome to be recognized."

Speaking of recognition, a new and overnight sensation washed over the Slab that night like a monsoon. Whether it's the sweatband, the jorts or signature

JAGUARS continues on Page 36



Photo by Daniela Toporek

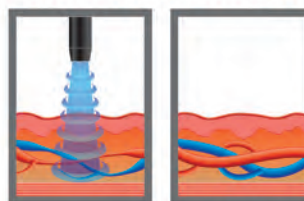
Jacksonville Jaguars fan groups, Teal Street Hooligans and Bold City Brigade, celebrated the Sept. 19, Thursday night game, hosting their traditional tailgates at The Slab off Duval and Bryan Street and welcoming special guests, the NFL Network.

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Nease routs Yulee, PVHS remains unbeaten

Nease earned its first win of the season in dominating fashion, beating host Yulee 33-8, and Ponte Vedra remained perfect with a narrow 14-10 victory against host Menendez on Friday, Sept. 20.

The Panthers (1-3) held the Hornets scoreless until the fourth quarter and led 31-0 at the half.

The Sharks (3-0) trailed the Falcons

10-7 until scoring on a rushing touchdown late in the fourth quarter to take the lead for the first time in the game and hold on for the win.

Next up for Nease is a conference game against host Mandarin at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27.

Ponte Vedra plays a conference game at Matanzas at 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27.



Photo by Daniela Toporek

Jaguars fans line up to "slap the bag" of wine for good luck right after the traditional circle up, some in matching Minshew shirts.

Jaguars

Continued from 35

mustache, hundreds of fans were swimming in "Minshew Mania," cheering on Jags quarterback Gardner Minshew II.

"It's great to finally see someone who's so comfortable lead this team down the field," Moses said. "Any plays that includes Minshew dropping back in the pocket and making a completion is heaven."

And while fans floated in the clouds that Thursday, Minshew lingered in the deep waters, waiting for the next opponent like a hungry shark. "We smell blood in the water and we're going to try and go get it," Minshew said about his early touchdown in a press conference after the game. "Anytime the defense can give us a short field, we're excited. That lets us be aggressive which is a fun way to play."

"He was amped up and led the team to a nice victory," cornerback Jalen Ramsey, said about Minshew, except Ramsey believes the defense had this ability all along. "This defense has always been elite, the guys on this team are talented. We put in work on the field. The defense worked hard and got nine sacks, so I say we stepped up to the plate."

With the Ramsey-Tom Coughlin debacle concerning fans, Moses just hopes they can settle on an agreement and have a winning season.

"I think Jalen is an amazing player



Teal Street Hooligan, Matt Moses, makes an attempt to "slap the bag" while the NFL Network films, but ends up slapping Teal Street Hooligan co-founder, Alex Varian. No yellow flags were spotted.

and he just really wants to win games," Moses said. "I'd be ticked, too, if I sat and watched amazing defense that lead us to the AFC Championship game be dismantled. I'm really hoping this blows over and we can get back to playing football and being the best defense in the league."

Looking back, maybe Gardner Minshew II is the key the Jaguars clumsily stumbled upon. Like Ramsey said, they always had a talented swarm of players, but maybe what was lacking was a talented leader. Not only have they found that with Minshew, but also found assertiveness, fearlessness and an instant boost of morale.

The Jacksonville Jaguars have been a school of hungry sharks all along. They were just missing their alpha hammerhead.

And yes, that hammerhead has a ridiculous mustache.

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