

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

October 3, 2019
Volume 47, No. 143
75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!

Help us celebrate

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Connections

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OCTOBER

is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Powerfully Pink

Page 30

DISTRICT FOCUS: MENTAL HEALTH



St. Johns County School District and Flagler Health Care Foundation partner to launch a program designed to address the mental health stigma that prevents youth from seeking support. *Read more on Page 4.*

LEFT: Representatives of THE PLAYERS Championship, including executive director of THE PLAYERS, Jared Rice (far left), announce a \$1 million donation toward the BRAVE program on Monday, Sept. 30.

Photos by Amber Lake



The BRAVE program aims to address mental health in youth by providing access through public schools.



First lady of Florida, Casey DeSantis speaks in support of the BRAVE initiative during Monday's event.

CAR OF THE WEEK

2017 AUDI Q7 3.0
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36,138 MILES, NEW \$70,195
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PRICE \$39,999



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

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

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

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

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

Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Nona Blue. The winner of the random draw was **Melanie Faith O'Connor**. Congratulations, Melanie — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET



CAT OF THE WEEK

Alba was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. She is a 2-year-old female domestic short hair. She is very loving and sweet, and just wants to curl up in your lap. Come see Alba today at the Pet Center. #51288



DOG OF THE WEEK

Lizzie was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. This beautiful girl is a spayed, 3-year-old lab mix. She is house-trained, great on a leash, good with other dogs and very lovable. Also, she is low heartworm positive so her adoption

fee is waived at this time, but don't let that stop you from meeting this friendly little girl — she will steal your heart. Come see Lizzie today at the Pet Center. #51706

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

St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The Pet Center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road in St. Augustine, off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. **For more information, please call the St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190.**

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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



Oceanfront Retreat

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



Oceanfront Masterpiece

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



Intracoastal Waterfront Condo

Marina San Pablo 2nd story condo featuring open floor plan, luxury amenities, and private balcony with water views.
2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths \$475,000



Panoramic Guana to Ocean Views

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



Elizabeth Hudgins, REALTOR®

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 "From Cottages to Castles"



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COLLECTION



SEASCAPE \$575,000

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

Carol Gorey | 904.699.5643
 CarolGorey@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE \$599,000

Lovely estate home situated on a serene preserve lot. The floorplan is ideal for entertaining. Features custom master bath & closets, great room with stacking sliders opening to screened lanai, chef's kitchen with 6-burner gas cooktop & prep island, custom window treatments, & formal dining room with chandelier. MLS 1015362

Kay Kennedy | 904.631.4184
 KayKennedy@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



SAWGRASS PLAYERS CLUB \$799,900

Wonderful home with water & golf course views. This recently remodeled home features travertine & hickory wood floors, custom built-ins, a coral fireplace, & updated kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances & marble countertops. Relax or entertain around the resort-style pool & summer kitchen! MLS 1016659

Karen DeLoach | 904.333.3954
 KarenDeLoach@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PABLO CREEK RESERVE \$949,000

Stunning 5 bedroom, 4 bath home with screened lanai, pool, & spa. The open formal living & dining rooms flow together for seamless entertaining. Features family room with soaring coffered ceilings & electric fireplace, divine kitchen with 2-tone cabinets, home theater, & private office. MLS 1015741

Jim Zeller | 904.772.5592
 JimZeller@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



Interested in your home's value? Call our Watson Office: 904.285.6300
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Cheers to 50 Years!

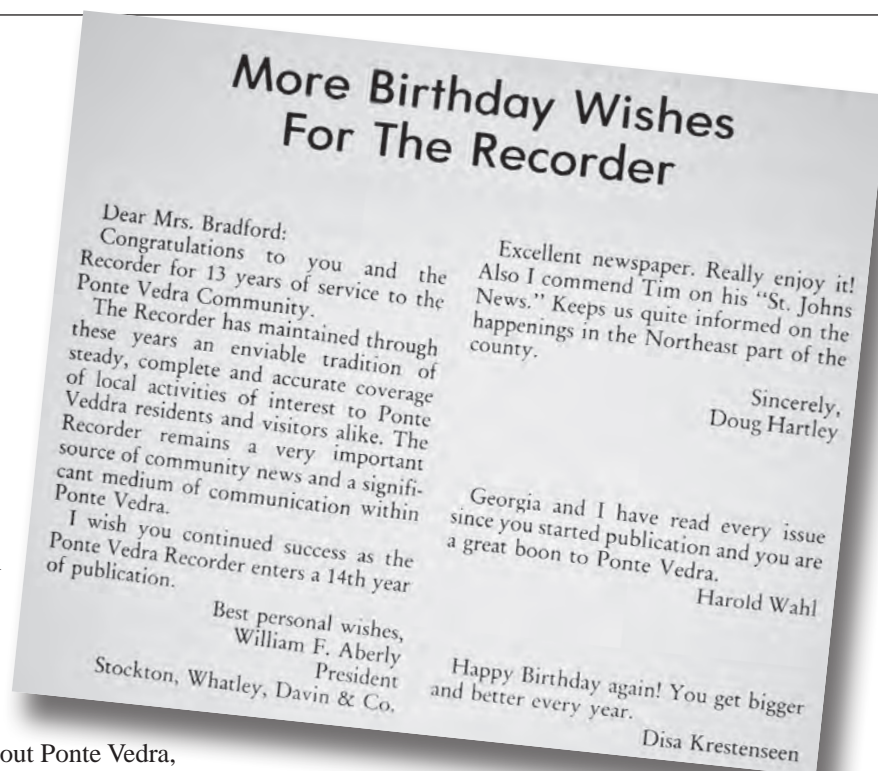
Birthday wishes to the Ponte Vedra Recorder

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Readers sent birthday wishes to the Recorder in 1981 congratulating the paper for its 13 years of service. This year, the paper celebrates 50 years in print and you're invited to be a part of it.

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 and the surrounding area? Did you really swim in the ditch? Tell us about your favorite music, fashion, sports or recreation. Where did you hang out and why?

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SJC Parks Naturalist Programs

For more information about these and other programs, visit www.sjcfl.us/CountyNaturalist/index.aspx.

Vilano Beach Cleanup

6-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11
Vilano Beach Beach Access,
2750 Anahma Dr., Vilano

Join St. Johns County Parks Naturalist Kelly Ussia in being good stewards of our beaches and participate in a cleanup at Vilano Beach. All necessary supplies will be provided. Just bring water and wear sunscreen and clothes appropriate for being on the beach. This event is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, email Kelly Ussia at kussia@sjcfl.us or call (904) 209-0335.



Bats! An Educational Program

3-4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16
Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library,
101 Library Blvd, Ponte Vedra Beach

Florida is home to 13 species of bats. Bats are unique winged mammals that play an important role in our ecosystem. Join St. Johns County Naturalist Kelly Ussia for an engaging and educational hour devoted to these amazing creatures. This event is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, email Kelly Ussia at kussia@sjcfl.us or call (904) 209-0335.

Ponte Vedra Woman's Club holds new member event

The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club held its new and prospective member event Aug. 22 at the home of Michelle Purdy to kick off the new year for the club.

The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club is a 501(c)(3) organization, which was started in 1970. The women in the club support five local charities throughout the year. Their moto is to "FUN-raise, SERVE socially, and ENGAGE locally."

Current President Lori Marjerison spoke at the meeting and encouraged the new participants to join the club. The annual membership cost is \$50. The PVWC meets each month at a local venue and highlights one of the charities it supports.

The next big FUNraiser will be Oct. 17 at Underwood's, where there will be drinks, snacks and a chance to win an 18-karat gold Roberto Coin bracelet worth \$3,950.

For more information on the club or to register for the next meeting, visit www.pontevedrawomansclub.com.

School District launches mental health care initiative

Flagler Health+ Care Connect, BRAVE program hopes to curb student mental health stigma

By Amber Lake

St. Johns County has decided to combat mental health from the onset — by starting with the district's youth.

At a Sept. 30 press conference, Flagler Health+, in conjunction with the school district, announced the BRAVE program, which is established to encourage students toward early mental health treatment. THE PLAYERS presented a generous donation of \$1 million toward supporting the initiative.

The BRAVE program will help students get in touch with their mental health earlier in life by opening the conversation about receiving help and dispelling myths. By addressing social barriers associated with receiving treatment, BRAVE hopes to provide healthcare services at the right time and right place for students silently struggling.

Flagler Health+ Care Connect will serve as the hub for student behavioral health referrals for all 39 schools in the St. Johns County School District. Services will be provided by Epic Behavioral Healthcare, Children's Home Society and St. Augustine Youth Services. BRAVE includes care coordination and navigations services, access to virtual mental health counseling visits and a 24-hour



Photo by Amber Lake

First lady of Florida, Casey DeSantis speaks in support of the BRAVE initiative Monday, Sept. 30.

crisis text line. Additionally, there will be on-site telehealth booths that offer access to urgent-care and mental health services.

In attendance supporting the initiative was Flagler Health+ CEO Jason Barrett, St. Johns County Public Schools Super-

intendent Tim Forson, St. Johns County School Board Chair Kelly Barrera, Executive Director of THE PLAYERS Jared Rice, tournament chairman Adam

INITIATIVE continues on Page 5

Ponte Vedra Inn & Club undergoes \$8 million golf course renovation

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club is giving its Ocean Course a much-anticipated makeover. The club hopes to improve many aspects of the course, from the practice facility to the back nine holes, with the 10th being fully redesigned.

“It was time to change,” said Jim Howard, director of golf at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. “It’s the (standard) that we want to be for our property and for our members.”

The renovation will address the greens, fairways, tees, bunkers, irrigation, drainage, grassing, bridges/bulkhead and landscaping, along with substantial improvements to the course’s driving range and practice facilities. While the first nine holes will essentially be the same, changes to the back nine will occur as well as the elimination of the 10th hole. A new hole will be designed at the north end of the property. The renovation is currently underway and is slated for completion by August of 2020 with the hopes that the updates will address new issues with the sport.

“Trying to make an interesting golf course for golfers is number one,” Howard said. “There is a challenge with golf



Photo courtesy of the Zimmerman Agency

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, the historic AAA Five Diamond oceanfront resort, recently announced plans to fully renovate its 18-hole championship Ocean Course.

right now that golf balls, combined with the new equipment, fly farther than they ever have.”

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club welcomes back renowned course designer Bobby

Weed to head the design. Weed worked on the course’s last renovations in 1998 and 2008. Weed, who is responsible for many of the TPC’s best venues, got his start apprenticing under golf legend, Pete Dye.

“We are very fortunate that he lives in the neighborhood and he is a club member,” Howard said. “I think Bobby is really known to design some interesting green complexes. A lot of that is almost just like an artist.... It will be interesting to see what he comes up with.”

Debuting in 1928, the Ocean Course has been a cornerstone amenity at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club for more than 90 years. First designed by renowned golf course architect Herbert Strong, the Inn’s signature course has undergone two major renovations since its opening, first in 1940 and later in 1998. The \$8 million Ocean Course renovation project is part of a larger \$40 million commitment to upgrade and modernize the resort as it approaches its centennial anniversary. Over the last 18 months, enhancements have been made to several of the resort’s amenities, including renovations to the Golf Club Dining Room and Golf Pro Shop, expansion of the club’s locker rooms and a remodeling of the resort’s family pool. By summer 2020, Ponte Vedra Inn & Club will reintroduce the historic Ocean House, offering 41 new guest rooms and suites.

Initiative

Continued from 4

Campbell and First Lady of Florida, Casey DeSantis.

Additionally, Nease High School senior, Anna Hampton, spoke on behalf of students struggling with academic pressures and social expectations in an evolving world.

“I’ve witnessed firsthand the effects that students are being impacted regarding well-being and mental health,” Hampton said. “Although the purpose of social media is to increase communication, we see many studies that link using the application to feelings of social isolation. Teenagers who already struggle with feelings of insecurity and inadequacy are stuck scrolling through images that reinforce and worsen those feelings.”

First lady DeSantis spoke about how essential addressing mental health is for the bettering the future of the state.

“Just as we make physical health a priority, we need to start making mental health a priority,” DeSantis said. “Especially for our young students. After all, 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14. Our children getting help early on is quintessentially essential to their success in the future going forward.”

National data shows that mental illness is on the rise among the youth population. St. Johns County itself is first in the state in overall deaths by suicide for young people, ages 18 to 24. The B.R.A.V.E initiative



Nease High School senior, Anna Hampton, represents the student body at the media event.

stands for “Be Resilient And Voice Emotions.” By helping improve access through public school systems, the program hopes to provide a hand for students and families who might not know where to look for help. According to county statistics, last year only 36% of students in St. Johns County who were identified with a mental health need followed through to access care. BRAVE’s goal for 2021 is to bring that percentage to 90%.



ABOVE: Representatives of THE PLAYERS Championship announce \$1 million donation toward the BRAVE program.



LEFT: St. Johns County School Board Chair, Kelly Barrera, shows support for the collaboration between Flagler Health+ and thanks THE PLAYERS for its donation of \$1 million toward the BRAVE program.

Photos by Amber Lake

Mike Platt is recreation specialist for the residential treatment program at Daniel, Florida's oldest child-service nonprofit agency. But really, he's the director of fun. In his free time, you might find him walking the dogs, jogging or on the water in a kayak using skills developed through Scouting.

Mike Platt

What can you share about your background?

I was born in New York and raised in New Jersey. I graduated from Christian Brothers Academy. During my years at CBA, I was on the varsity wrestling team.

I am an Eagle Scout (Double Bronze Palm) and a member of the Order of the Arrow, receiving the Vigil Honor — the highest honor the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members for service to lodge, council and scouting.

I then attended Jacksonville University, where I served as the student disciplinary chairman as well as a resident assistant. I was inducted into the Green Key Society, which recognizes campus leaders. I earned my Bachelor of Science in sociology with a minor in psychology.

Before coming to Daniel, I was an assistant field sports director (teaching archery, personal fitness and fishing merit badges) and an assistant aquatic director for the Boy Scouts of America (teaching the BSA Lifeguard program, lifesaving, swimming, rowing, canoeing and small boat sailing merit badges).

Briefly describe what Daniel is.

Daniel is the oldest childcare agency in Florida, established in 1884 with the mission of improving the lives of children and families.

Daniel began as an orphanage, but over the past 135 years, we've grown into so much more. We currently offer a diverse range of programs that serve around 3,500 children and families each day. I work for the residential treatment program, which provides children exhibiting the most severe symptoms of mental and emotional distress with intensive residential treatment over four- to six-month periods.

How did you come to work at Daniel?

I heard about Daniel through the classified section of the newspaper 30 years ago. The organization had placed an ad looking for child care workers. In 1989, I attended a group interview and was selected for the position.

Tell us about your current role at Daniel.

My current role at Daniel is staff trainer and recreation specialist — also known as the director of fun! I work with a multidisciplinary team, assisting youth and families with meeting their treatment goals. I help clients come to know their self worth by improving their self esteem and building character while teaching them ego enhancing therapeutic activities, self control, coping and social skills. I also work with volunteers and partners across our community that provide special events, play days and service projects for the agency.

Additionally, I instruct Daniel staff for certification in adult and pediatric first aid/CPR, Physical Crisis Intervention under Crisis Prevention Institute guidelines. I guide therapeutic recreation and pool training for staff and youth, and also work to certify others as Ukeru instructors, which offers a safe, comforting and restraint-free approach to crisis management.

I was recently inducted as a Meritorious Instructor in the CPI Hall of Merit for demonstrating training excellence and commitment to the training process, as well as advancing the philosophy of care, welfare, safety and security.



Photos courtesy of Rombauer Mike Platt

Where did you meet your wife?

I met my wife, Lisa, at Daniel in 1993. She also was a child care worker and worked as a case manager and an adoption information specialist as well.

What do you enjoy most about living in St. Johns County?

I love the great outdoors, the beaches and the fact that there is plenty of room for my two dogs to run around. I also enjoy the kind people and my neighborhood.

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my free time I enjoy jogging (5K-15K runs), swimming, kayaking and playing with my fur babies (two dogs and two cats). I also like to spend time helping others in the community, and hearing and sharing jokes.

What is the last bucket list item you crossed off?

The last bucket list item I crossed off was going on a cruise to Labadie, Haiti, Cozumel, Mexico and Jamaica.



Edited by Christine Rodenbaugh Platt with wife, Lisa

Your Real Estate Experts from the Beaches and Beyond

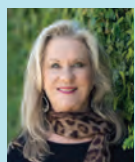
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\$799,900



MARINA SAN PABLO #203
\$799,000



173 INDIAN COVE LN.
\$699,000



3591 KERNAN BLVD. S.
#304 - \$134,000 | #118 - \$108,000 - Under Contract



109 TEAL POINTE LANE
For Rent - \$6,000/mo.



965 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
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9707 OAK HAMMOCK CT.
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618 & 616 IBIS COVE
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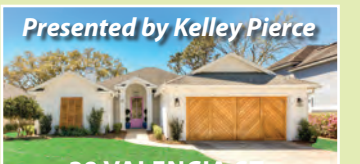
223 SAN JUAN DR.
\$3,695,000



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\$1,790,000



328 CLEARWATER DR.
\$949,000



38 VALENCIA ST.
\$860,000



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570 7TH AVE SOUTH
\$455,990 - Jacksonville Beach



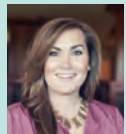
13532 MONTECITO PLACE
\$399,990



13533 MONTECITO PLACE
\$335,000 - Seller Incentives



105 DIEGO LANE
\$259,000 - Lot



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254 HAWKS HARBOR RD.
\$324,998



12845 JULINGTON FOREST CT.
\$273,000 - Jacksonville

All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted.



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pontevedraproperties@yahoo.com



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\$945,000 each



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\$865,000



2599 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$825,000



134 OSPREY COVE LANE
\$799,000



2827 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
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2589 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$699,000 - Furnished



2565 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
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Thursday, Oct. 3	Friday, Oct. 4	Saturday, Oct. 5	Sunday, Oct. 6
<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 Thursday, Oct. 3, through Sunday, 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>First Coast Newcomers Adult Recreation Events Club monthly dinner The First Coast Newcomers Adult Recreation Events Club will meet for trivia and dinner at 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 3, at Gator's Dockside St. Johns. Trivia is free to play. To RSVP or for more information, call the club organizer at (904) 829-0643. Gator's Dockside St. Johns is located at 485 FL-13 in Fruit Cove.</p>	<p>1¢ LIFE Pop Art exhibition The exhibition, "1¢ LIFE," will be presented at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach through Nov. 9, showcasing over 55 important original graphics and poems from the "1¢ LIFE" publication, which debuted in 1964. This exhibition will celebrate the 55th anniversary of the landmark publication and will accompany the Cultural Center's 25th anniversary celebration. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. Experience the art of world-known pop artists like Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. Visit www.ccpvb.org or call (904) 280-0614 for more information. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way 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>CHILLULA at Prohibition Kitchen Watch popular St. Augustine music group, CHILLULA, take the stage at Prohibition Kitchen at 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 4. Chillula is a dance band, blending the styles of r&b, funk, hip-hop, soul, rock, reggae and jazz into a sound that everyone can groove to on the dance floor. Prohibition Kitchen is located at 119 St. George St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Adult mental health first aid This program is designed to give key skills to help someone who is developing or experiencing a mental health crisis. Participants will use a five-step action plan to recognize symptoms of mental health issues, identify common mental health challenges for adults and learn effective ways to provide initial help and guidance or other supportive help. The session will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 4, at the Y Healthy Living Center. The Y Healthy Living Center is located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p>	<p>Beginners sewing class Join Melissa Garcia from 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Ponte Vedra Beach Library for a beginners sewing class. Participants are asked to bring their own sewing machine and sewing kit. This class is limited to five participants. Visit the library Reference Desk or call (904) 827-6950 to register. The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>International 'Observe the Moon' night Get ready to see stars, planets, the moon, and interesting sky objects from 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park. Hosted by the Northeast Florida Astronomical Society, guest can enjoy a night of stargazing with the help of NEFAS volunteers, who will bring their personal equipment to show guests how to safely look at objects in the sky without any damage. Adult supervision is required for children. Park entry fee is \$5 per car. Guests must have paid and entered no later than 7:30 p.m., when the gate entrance is closes. There will not be re-entry. Find NEFAS in Parking Lot #8. Limit the use of vehicle headlight during stargazing hours as much as possible. There are restrooms, water fountains, but few lights. You may wish to bring a flashlight for the restrooms. Bug spray and flashlights are recommended. Hanna Park is located at 500 Wonderwood Dr. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Acrylic pour & resin coaster workshop Amanda Bruton of "Basically Pour" will be hosting an acrylic pour and resin coaster class from 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Atlantic Beach Arts Market. The class will go over four different pouring techniques, custom mix their own paint colors and pour-paint a set of four coasters. The coasters will dry for three days. After, the instructor will gloss them up and resin them and will be ready for pick up a week after they are created. Cost for the class is \$55 per student and includes supplies. For more information, call (904) 372-7442. Atlantic Beach Arts Market is located at 1805 Mayport Road in Atlantic Beach.</p>	<p>A Day of Magic with Mark Alan Professional comedian and magician, Mark Alan, will be performing at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6, at the All Beaches Experimental Theatre. Alan has been entertaining nationally and internationally for over 25 years and has won awards for his fast and clean comedy and interactions with the audience. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for ages 18 and under. For more information, call (904) 249-7177 or visit www.abettheatre.com. All Beaches Experimental Theatre is located at 544 Atlantic Blvd. in Neptune 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>First Coast Newcomers Adult Card Playing Club playing date The First Coast Newcomers Adult Card Playing Events Club will host its next playing date and holiday lunch at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6, at a private room in a golf clubhouse off CR 210 in St. Johns, Florida. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP is required. Call the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to RSVP, find the location or for more information.</p> <p>Fall community open house at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach Visit Ponte Vedra Beach's only private equity community from 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6, and tour new and resale homes ranging from the \$600s to \$2,000,000. Members of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach can use amenities including a championship golf course, private beach club, tennis facility, fitness center, amenities park and a clubhouse with dining and social activities for all ages. Check in at The Plantation's Gate House for home listings, maps, refreshments, community tours, and Beach House access. The Plantation community is located at 101 Plantation Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>

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Monday, Oct. 7	Tuesday, Oct. 8	Wednesday, Oct. 9	Thursday, Oct. 10
<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, Dr. Vin, of Slainte Chiropractic, 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>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 more information about Jax Beach Runners and their events, visit their page at www.meetup.com/Jax-Beach-Runners. Southern Swells Brewing Co. is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Taxes in retirement This seminar, hosted from 6 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 7, at the Community Center and Exhibition Hall will equip attendees with the most up-to-date and comprehensive information regarding retirement taxation, including ways to efficiently harvest income sources, whether they are Social Security, 401(k)/IRA, other sources or a combination of all. Using the information from this seminar, attendees will be better positioned to develop a successful retirement tax strategy that can potentially safeguard them from over-taxation. The Community Center and Exhibition Hall is located at 2508 South Beach Pkwy. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Trivia at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom Monday nights at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p>Adult mental health first aid Ever thought about quitting tobacco? Join 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>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>\$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>First Coast Newcomers Adult Recreation Events Club dinner 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>Laser Loft grand opening Celebrate Laser Loft's grand opening from 6 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, and enjoy experiencing the expansion of the spa with music, food, cocktails and more. There will be plenty of deals on services such as botox, weight loss program treatments, packages and more. Food will be catered by Pusser's in Ponte Vedra. For more information, visit www.EventBrite.com and search the event, "Laser Loft Botox Party." Laser Loft is located at 820 A1A N., #E17 in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Shoulder pain workshop John Goetze Physical Therapy of Jacksonville Beach and Innovative Physical Therapy of Ponte Vedra Beach will host a free shoulder pain workshop from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, at John Goetze Physical Therapy. The interactive workshop will cover common causes of shoulder and rotator cuff pain and injuries, as well as tips for pain relief and optimal shoulder health. Call (904) 280-2001 register as space is limited. John Goetze Physical Therapy is located at 1400 Marsh Landing Pkwy. #112 in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Jacksonville job fair Job Fair Pro has teamed up with Best Hire Career Fairs to create a huge job fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the Jacksonville Marriott. This career fair will allow job seekers to learn about the businesses hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending resumes over the web to get no responses back? Put a face with a name and make a first impression. Potential jobs from plenty of industries will be attending, so be prepared to interview with hiring managers and recruiters from the top hiring companies in Jacksonville. Dress to impress and bring plenty of resumes. The job fair is free too attend. The Jacksonville Marriott is located at 4670 Salisbury Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Yom Kippur services Chabad at the Beaches will host a Yom Kippur preliminary service at 8:45 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the shul. Primary service will begin around 10:30 a.m. For more information and/or to RSVP, visit www.ChabadBeaches.com/HHolidays. Chabad at the Beaches is located at 521 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Sex + Faith All are welcome to an evening with noted author, Dr. Kate Ott, presented by the Christ Church Family Ministry. Dr. Ott will address how faith relates to sexuality and the essential role parents play in forming sexually healthy and faithful children. This program is for parents and adults who work with children and youth. This event is free and open to the public. Dr. Ott's book, "Sex + Faith: Talking with Your Child from Birth to Adolescence," will be available for sale at the event. Free parking is available in the Christ Church parking garage. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Dr. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Journey through the Chakras Learn the meaning and function of each chakra, explore the characteristics of a balanced chakra and discover guidelines for bringing chakras into balance in a workshop led by Reiki Master, clairvoyant and international color therapist Irene Schrank. The workshop is from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Mind Body and Beyond Center. Cost for the workshop is \$25. For questions or more information, call (904) 992-9930 or email info@mbandbcenter.com. Mind Body and Beyond Center is located at 13500 Sutton Park Dr. S., # 203, in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Cocktails & Creatives Cocktails & Creatives connects creative professionals, print/web designers, photographers, painters, writers, makers, and more, in a low-intensity social setting. Whether new to the city, a regular at AIGA events or a seasoned professional who is getting back in the game, this group makes an effort to invite the community at large to network, relax, and find out what's happening in the design world. This month's meet will be from 6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 10, at Poe's Tavern. Poe's Tavern is located at 363 Atlantic Blvd. in Atlantic 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 by Mel Intemann, PTO president

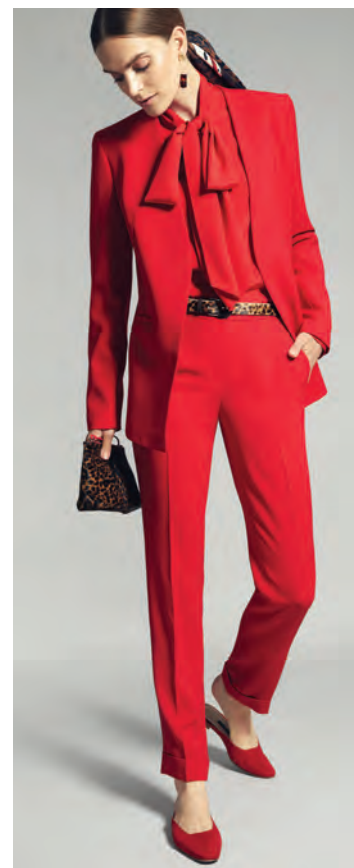
Landrum Middle School mascot gets new den

By Mel Intemann
Special to the Recorder

The idea to enhance the front entrance of Landrum Middle School began in 2018, as a new class of rising sixth graders were

moving on to Landrum and a new PTO Board was coming into session. Many parents noticed that the front entrance to the school could use a little curb appeal.

LANDRUM continues on Page 12



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Food Truck Friday at Nocatee features live music, family fun

Jacksonville's favorite food trucks served great food at Nocatee Station Field while the crowd listened to live music by Billy Buchanan on Sept. 27.

The next Food Truck Friday is set for Oct. 11. Drinks will be available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines. There will also be a kidzone with bounce house inflatables (weather permitting). Residents are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets, and bug spray.



Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

Identical twins Calla and Rynn attended Food Truck Friday with their father, Bradley Chard (center).



Billy Buchanan entertained the crowd with live music during the Sept. 27 Food Truck Friday at Nocatee Station Field.



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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.

OBITUARIES

Jessica Marie McDaniel

Jessica Marie McDaniel, 37, died Sept. 22, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalle.com

Michael Reck

Michael Reck, 67, died Sept. 24, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalle.com

William Taylor

William Taylor, 91, died September 26, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalle.com

Kay V. Stratton

Kay V. Stratton, 69, died September 26, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalle.com

Henry Leon Woodworth

Henry Leon Woodworth, 58, of Atlantic Beach, died September 25, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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Ribault Garden Club celebrates 80 years

About 90 members and guests of The Ribault Garden Club in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, met to celebrate the club's 80th anniversary Thursday, Sept. 19. The celebration, with cake and champagne, took place at the Ribault club house at 705 Second Avenue North.

Ellen Glasser, Mayor of Atlantic Beach, presented and read a proclamation honoring the club's 80 years of promoting interest in horticulture, knowledge in floral arts, beautification of our community, support of conservation, protection of ecology and education of youth in all aspects of garden work. Other specially invited guests from the community included Chris Hoffman from the Beaches Historical Society, Penny Kennedy from Ocean Palms Elementary, and Keith Fuller, a retired horticulturist from St. Johns County.

In 1938, The Ribault Circle from the Garden Club of Jacksonville left to organize The Ribault Garden Club for the beaches and nearby areas. The club became federated in 1939, 80 years ago, with the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. In 1949 the Jacksonville Beach building was purchased as the meeting hall. The Ribault Garden Club has four circles: Atlantic Beach Circle, Della Robbia Circle, Magnolia Circle and Yucca Circle. Current membership is 106.

Preceding the anniversary celebration, Brandon Speeg, Director of Conservation at White Oak Plantation, presented a program on Endangered Wildlife and Habitats. This is a good example of the kind of educational programs presented monthly. Many meetings also include a flower show, where members can exhibit cuttings and plants and prepare for the annual standard flower show judged by Florida Federated Flower Show Judges.



ABOVE: Speaker Brandon Speeg, director of conservation at White Oak Plantation, with club president Jeannie Ballentine and vice president Judy Blocker.



LEFT: Jeannie Ballentine, president, receives a proclamation from Ellen Glasser, Mayor of Atlantic Beach.

Photos courtesy of Ribault Garden Club

This flower show is always free and open to the public. Other ticketed events open to the public include an annual Holiday Tea and Design Program, complete with fine china and silver and holiday design ideas, and Fun with Flowers, held on second Wednesdays from October through April.

The club's annual fundraiser is a Trash to Treasure Sale with a "Wine and Hors d'oeuvres" early shopping event the evening before.

Community service projects of Ribault Garden Club include a National Monarch

Way Station on the grounds; helping fund the Sea Oats Program at Fletcher High School; limited college scholarships to Fletcher students majoring in environmental and/or horticulture studies; and support for Penny Pines, a project to replenish the Florida Pine trees lost due to forest fires in the Ocala National Forest and The Coral Reef Program, a program started in the Keys to regrow and plant new coral to replenish the reefs of Florida.

Visit www.ribaultgardenclub.org for more information.

Landrum

Continued from 10

So, the rolling out of ideas on the beautification process began.

The PTO did not have any specific fundraisers for this project nor was it funded

by any general fund. However, the PTO had planned a meeting with Kevin and Karyn Caroll, owners of Coastal Luxury Outdoors, about becoming a community partner of Landrum. The Carrolls took it a step further and let the school know that they graciously wanted to donate something to the school.

The makeover idea was generated from the PTO and what they thought would be a better car drop-off and pick-up visual experience. The tiling of the wall behind the Landrum Lion mascot, "ABL" (Alice B. Landrum) was the first idea. The pavers, landscaping and everything else came in to play once the PTO and Principal Player sat down with Coastal Luxury Outdoors. The team at CLO started mocking up designs.

The other great piece to this makeover is that the pavers that surround ABL are made up of personalized bricks that were sold in a fall fundraiser last year at Landrum, called the "Landrum Lion Challenge." Families could either purchase a personalized brick, a paw print (located outside of the gymnasium entrance) with

their family's name on it, or a "Landrum Lion Lives Here" yard sign to place front of their homes. So, the vision was to "build" ABL's Den with Landrum families' personalized bricks for years to come. The building of his den has begun. In the future, all of those bricks will have families' names on them with more added each year.

The installation of this project began just a few weeks before school started, and it took about a week. The installation included plank tiling on the wall behind the mascot, brick pavers surrounding the mascot, landscaping, new lettering and two planters to enhance ABL. Now he really "pops."

The PTO looking forward to the launch of its fall fundraiser, which is slated for mid to late October. The "Landrum Lion Challenge" will encompass selling personalized bricks, new yard signs and paw prints. However, this year the PTO is going to add one more piece to the challenge. They have a few tricks up their sleeves that might enhance the new entrance even more, and perhaps some other areas on campus.

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October 2019

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(Left to right) Nancy Hallett, Jen Hendrich, Christine Swanbeck, Kathleen M Floryan,
Rob Schlingmann, Gloria Dongara, Lori Adams, Pamela Bomba CPA, Matt Price
(Not pictured Ricki Taylor, Kim Scott)



Isabelle Renault
President/CEO,
St. Johns County
Chamber of Commerce

We received word on Wednesday, Aug. 28 that Hurricane Dorian was on its way and could seriously impact the East Coast of Florida. Due to lessons learned during Hurricanes Matthew and Irma, the St.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

Johns County Chamber of Commerce used social media (Facebook, Twitter and ConstantContact emails) to communicate with our members and friends. We shared relevant Facebook posts from the County's Emergency Management Division, Florida Chamber of Commerce, and the St. Johns County Visitor and Convention Bureau. We posted Facebook videos to discuss up-to-date news and tips. We updated our website (www.sjchamber.com) to prominently add emergency information and included lists of our members in a position to assist with recovery. While our offices were closed Sept. 3 and 4, we were able to receive updates remotely and forward timely information. We re-opened Sept. 5 and began reaching out to Chamber members. We continue to work closely with the Visitor and Convention Bureau so that we can get residents and visitors back to shopping in our community.

Then came Humberto...

To a lesser extent, we were concerned about the Humberto storm. We kept members informed and, after consultation with the county's emergency management department on Sept. 13, we reluctantly decided to reschedule

the Ponte Vedra Auto Show. The storm could have severely impacted the show and we were concerned about the safety of our attendees, show car registrants, volunteers and staff. The show, originally scheduled for Sept. 15 was rescheduled for Sept. 22.

Now for some positive news. Karen Everett, current economic development manager, has been chosen to fill the Ponte Vedra Beach Division Director position as of Oct. 1. We are excited that Karen will bring her background in economic development and knowledge of the local community to the division. She began with St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce in 2017 in the Ponte Vedra Beach Division and lives in the Ponte Vedra area. Huge thanks are in order for Sandy Kavanaugh, who filled in as interim director after Toni Boudreaux Godwin accepted an exciting new position in the automotive field. Sandy's experience with the Ponte Vedra Auto Show and the division — and her positive personality — will make for a seamless transition.

And, we have a new roster of Chamber members to lead our efforts during the next fiscal year. They are

profiled separately in this issue, but congratulations to the new members of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division board of directors: Gloria Dongara, chair, AAA Auto Club Group; Lori Adams, vice chair, Cabi Independent Fashion; Nancy Hallett, Gateway Business Advisors; Rob Schlingmann, immediate past chair, PV Plantation and Director; Jennifer Belisario, TPC Sawgrass; Pamela Bomba, Pivot CPAs; Ricki Taylor, Synovus Mortgage Corp; Jen Hendrich, PGA Tour; Matt Price, Regions Bank; Kim Scott, The Morgan Company; Christine Swanbeck, Ruth's Chris Restaurant; and Kathleen Floryan, eXp Realty. Thank you also to the division's many ambassadors for their unflagging support.

And the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors has chosen its executive committee for Fiscal Year 2020. Chair Mark Nighbor, Advanced Disposal; Vice-Chair Erika Hamer, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center; Treasurer Skip Marsh, Flagler Health+; and Secretary Pat Kane, Pop-A-Lock.

We are in great shape as a Chamber of Commerce with these new leaders. I look forward to working with you all.

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce president Isabelle Renault speaks to the crowd during last year's Branded Breakfast and Awards ceremony. This year's event is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 25. Photo by Susan Griffin



Chamber presents 2019 Branded Breakfast and Awards

Oct. 25 event to recognize business leaders who have made their mark

The annual Chamber signature event, BRANDED, is the organization's most recognizable event of the year from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 25, in Shell Hall at World Golf Village, 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine. The keynote speaker is Craig Dickman, managing director of TitledownTech Innovation Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Open to all Chamber members, the breakfast features the annual awards presentations, which include Member of the Year, Economic Development Member of the Year, Ambassador of the Year and the President's Award. Expected to draw more than 200 people, this event recognizes those members who have distinguished themselves in some significant way.

Registration is \$45 for members. Nonmembers may register for \$70 by emailing Erin.Johnson@SJChamber.com.

Pitch Factory Course helps businesses reach next level

Chamber offers 7-week course to St. Johns County entrepreneurs

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recently partnered with the JAX Chamber to bring a third cohort of an exciting opportunity for entrepreneurs in St. Johns County. Inspired by the JAX Bridges program, "The Pitch Factory," will help businesses move to the next level by helping to develop and refine their value proposition. For more information, visit www.jaxbridges.com.

At the conclusion of the program, entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to meet with key leaders from large organizations to share their value proposition. Participants will also receive valuable feedback and will feel prepared to earn new business.

The free course will meet Thursday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. Oct. 24 and 31, Nov. 7, 14 and 21, and Dec. 5 and 12. at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce office at 100 South Park Blvd, Suite 405, St. Augustine, FL 32086. The class will not meet Nov. 28 to observe Thanksgiving. Space is limited; registration closes end of business Friday, Oct. 11. The Pitch Factory is one more way St. Johns County is Business Ready.

To register, email Bethany Taylor at Bethany.Taylor@SJChamber.com or call (904) 829-5681.



Karen B. Everett
 Director PVB Division,
 St. Johns County
 Chamber of Commerce

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am thrilled to begin my new position as director, Ponte Vedra Beach Division, St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, on Oct. 1.

This new beginning is a natural progression and a return to my St. Johns Chamber roots. I know I have big shoes to fill. Toni Boudreaux Godwin, PVBD Director from 2017-2019, recruited me to fill in for Lucia Miller during Lucia's maternity leave. I knew Lucia was the division coordinator, but quickly learned that she also managed a huge portion of the annual Auto Show. Thank goodness that Sandy Kavanaugh had agreed to assist with the Auto Show. Despite a rescheduled date (sound familiar?), the September 2017 Auto Show was a success.

I was delighted to be offered the position of the Chamber's Economic Development Manager in the fall 2017. While I have enjoyed this role and have

learned a lot about the county, I applied for this promotional opportunity after Toni announced she was leaving for an exciting new gig. I live in Ponte Vedra and look forward to working with the board members and the ambassadors of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

Our goal list is long and ambitious, but I am confident that we can accomplish great things by working together. The Ponte Vedra area attracts many residents and businesses and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce provides the resources and programs to ensure that our business community thrives and grows.

I am grateful for the warm wishes I have already received. While I know many of the business leaders already, I look forward to meeting more and drawing even more businesses into the Chamber family. Please drop by to visit, invite me for coffee or attend one of our events.

2019-2020 PVB DIVISION AMBASSADORS



Jennifer Hooper O'Neal
Chair
 MosquitoNix
 operating partner



Kari Zerrahn
Membership Chair
 Allstate Anderson
 Agencies of NE
 Florida Inc



Trudy Toche
**Ribbon Cutting
 Coordinator**
 Mary Kay
 consultant/trainer



Josh Hull
 VyStar Credit
 Union,
 Nocatee Branch
 vice president



Ellen Taylor
 ServPro of the
 Beaches and Ponte
 Vedra, Servpro of St.
 Augustine - business
 development rep.



**Jenny L.
 McKeithen**
 First Citizens Bank
 Vice president,
 financial sales
 manager



Rachael Mueller
 Girl Scouts of
 Gateway Council



Corey McDonald
 Digital Mark
 Company



Trevor Rosendahl
 PMC Holdings



David Godwin
 TransAmerica



Cindy Bishop, RN
 Robert Karol, DMD



Shana Ryan
 Conceptual HR
 Solutions

UPCOMING PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION EVENTS

OCTOBER

PVB Division Joint Luncheon w/ Jax Chamber Beaches Division

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 16

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location: Sawgrass Beach Club
 9797 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Speaker: Todd L Sack, MD FACP, Gastroenterology & Hepatology

Topic: Energy and Resilience: Opportunities for NE Florida

Series Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

Chamber After Hours

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 23

Time: 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Location/Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Recorder
 1102 A1A North, Unit 108,
 Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Info: Cheers to 50 years! Join us as we celebrate the Ponte Vedra Recorder 50 years in business! The host will provide beverages, delicious bites, fun and entertainment. Bring your business cards!

NOVEMBER

Chamber at Noon- A Salute to Veterans

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 6

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: Sawgrass Beach Club
 9797 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Info: Join us for this special luncheon to salute our veterans.

Sponsors: Fields Auto Group, VyStar Credit Union, Jack Wilson, Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

Chamber Before Hours

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 13

Time: 8 – 9 a.m.

Location/Sponsor: TBD

Info: Get to know one of your local businesses while networking with fellow chamber members. This networking event provides a great way to start your work day with a little breakfast and conversation!

Chamber After Hours

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 20

Time: 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Location/Sponsor: TBD

Info: Join us to network a.m.ong members and guests. The host will provide beverages and delicious bites. Bring your business cards!

DECEMBER

PVB Division Jingle & Mingle Holiday Party

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 4

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: TBD

Info: Join us for a festive evening of holiday fun with live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, a.m.azing raffle items.
 Sponsor: Iberia Bank

For more information and to register, visit www.sjcchamber.com.

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COMING SOON



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205 SETTLERS ROW N.



Spectacular 5 BD, 7.5 BA pool home in The Plantation @ Ponte Vedra, a gated community. This home offers luxurious living with gorgeous water views! **MLS# 986795 / \$1,300,000**

459 ROYAL TERN RD. S



Stunning 5 BD, 4.2 BA home on almost an acre, located in Marsh Landings desirable North Island, offering tremendous privacy! Intracoastal waterway views from the balcony & screened porch! **MLS# 1014853 / \$1,898,000**

283 CLEARWATER DR.



Beautiful pool home located in the gated community, Plantation Oaks! Enjoy glistening lake views from almost every room. Featuring 6 BD, 5.5 BA & 4,372 sq.ft. of living space. **MLS# 983628 / \$849,000**

121 LAMP LIGHTER LN.



Fabulous Santa Fe Style pool home featuring 5 BD, 4 full & 3 half bath overlooking the marsh & golf course, simply stunning! A private office suite is located above the second 2 car garage. **MLS# 984512 / \$1,398,000**

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2019-2020 PVB DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Gloria Dongara
Board Chair

Dongara is the financial services agent at the Auto Club Group in Ponte Vedra Beach and St. Augustine. She specializes in life insurance, banking, indexed annuities and fixed

annuities. Prior to AAA, Dongara had 23 plus years of experience in corporate America, specifically heading the global corporate markets anti-money laundering area as well as client services and cash management. She has lived in Ponte Vedra for over 27 years and served as an ambassador on the St. Johns County Chamber for three years and has been on the Board of Directors for two years. Dongara is now the incoming Chair of the St. Johns County Board of Directors, Ponte Vedra Division.



Lori Adams
Vice Chair

Adams is the operations manager for Harbor View Advisors, a boutique investment banking firm located in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. She has 35 years of experience in the

financial services industry with specialization in client service, operations and compliance. Her "can-do" spirit creates positive energy among the team members. She has been employed at Harbor View Advisors since 2010. She also has been a Cabi independent fashion stylist since 2010 and has been a part time employee of TPC Sawgrass since 2000, where she works as a sales associate in the golf shop. Adams has served as an Ambassador for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Ponte Vedra Division and served as Secretary on the Board for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Ponte Vedra Division. Her new role is vice chair on the Board for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Ponte Vedra Division. She received the Grace Hayes Ambassador of the Year Award for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. She is a member of the Ponte Vedra Women's Alliance and served on its board a few years ago.



Nancy Hallett
Secretary

Hallett is the managing partner at GW Business Valuations and a partner at Gateway Business Advisors. She is a certified valuation analyst through the

National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts. Hallett has a degree in accounting from Florida State College at Jacksonville. Her experience in preparing, analyzing and managing financial statements, combined with her transactional work in business brokerage has provided her with a unique perspective and skillset to help business owners discover the true value of their business.



Rob Schlingmann
Immediate Past Chair

Schlingmann began his career as a clubhouse manager at Kiawah Island Club where he worked for three years. From there, he was employed as a general

manager at the Rehoboth Beach Country Club where he worked for almost five years. His next employer was The Apawamis Club, where he worked for almost 11 years as general manager and chief operating officer. He currently works at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach as general manager and chief operating officer.



Christine Swanbeck

Swanbeck is the general manager at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra Beach, where she works day in and day out to improve every guest's experi-

ence through a high standard of service and high-quality food. Swanbeck believes

BOARD continues on Page 17



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Board

Continued from 16

building relationships is the foundation for any successful business; however, it is especially important for the hospitality industry. Swanbeck's professional journey began when she studied for four years at Florida State University, earning degrees in hospitality and business, while being the captain of the women's cross country and track team.



Jen Hendrich

A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Hendrich holds a Bachelor of Science in Communications. Hendrich has worked for the PGA TOUR for six years and is currently the community outreach manager

for THE PLAYERS Championship, where she helps grow community awareness of the tournament through marketing, public relations and charitable efforts. Prior to her job at the TOUR, Hendrich worked as an account coordinator at Burdette Ketchum, a full-service marketing firm in Jacksonville. For the past 10 years, Hendrich has served on the board of the Jacksonville Chapter of the UT Alumni Association, a group created for people who are interested in the distinguished record and future progress of The University of Tennessee. She is also currently on the board of the Ponte Vedra Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, where she helps the chamber increase membership and deliver continuous value-added service to its current members. Hendrich has been a resident of Northeast Florida for 10 years. She and her English Bulldog, Banks, live in Jacksonville.



Kathleen Floryan

Floryan has been successfully selling properties and helping people buy homes as a consistent "top producer" year after year. She works full time in real estate and continued through the

toughest real estate markets since 2006. Floryan lists and sells residential real estate in all price ranges throughout the St. Johns County and Beaches area. Her average days-on-market is less than 45 days. Floryan's passion is specializing in luxury homes in Ponte Vedra Beach that include oceanfront, golf courses, gated and ungated neighborhoods, marsh front, Intracoastal and riverfront properties. She also sells in the newest community west of Ponte Vedra Beach called Nocatee. She is a certified luxury home marketing specialist, a certified short sale specialist, a certified residential resort and second home specialist, and a certified Nocatee Realtor. Floryan is a broker associate with eXp Realty.



Kim Scott

Scott is president and co-owner of The Morgan Company, a full-service promotional product and corporate gift distributor located in Jacksonville Beach. The Morgan Company

provides creative marketing ideas and solutions for business, associations and nonprofits to help them self-promote using custom imprinted specialty items. Scott graduated from Auburn University and worked for The Ritz Carlton-Buckhead in Atlanta, the Auburn

University Hotel and Conference Center and the Opelika, Alabama Chamber of Commerce before moving to Jacksonville. In 2000, Scott and her mother, Samm Morgan, opened The Morgan Company out of home offices. In 2010, Scott moved the office from her home and started building a sales and support team. Scott has lived in Ponte Vedra Beach for 19 years with her husband, Andy Scott, and three daughters, Morgan, Katharine and Sydney. Scott hopes that one day one of her girls will work beside her.



Matt Price

Matt Price was born and raised in Albany, Georgia, and graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2001. Currently, he is vice president of commercial banking

for Regions Bank. He was hired by Regions in 2006 and has built a successful career in banking for the past 17 years. Price recently served as chair for the Division's Ambassador program and was also recognized as Ambassador of the Year in 2017. He has been married to Paige for 15 years, has an eighth-grader at Landrum Middle, and can regularly be spotted with the entire family on a local tennis court.



Pamela Bomba

Bomba is a tax partner with Pivot CPAs, where she began her career in 2005 after receiving her bachelor's degree in business administration and Master of

Accountancy from the University of North Florida. She has always lived Northeast Florida and now calls Palm Valley home. While she has a strong background in all areas of taxation, Bomba primarily specializes in consulting and compliance for large, multi-state corporations, partnerships and their owners. She has extensive experience with different tax sectors including local, state and federal taxation and financial accounting. Bomba is a member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In the community, she serves on the finance committee of The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. She is also the finance chair for the First Coast Manufacturer's Association. Bomba is a mentor with the Jacksonville Women's Business Center and is a member of the Accounting and Financial Women's Alliance. She also actively volunteers with Junior Achievement.



Ricki Taylor

A Florida native, Taylor attended University of Georgia and then began her career in the mortgage business in 1985. She joined Synovus Mortgage Corp. in

1998 and is now responsible for covering North East Florida for the company. She has been an active member of the SJC Chamber - Ponte Vedra Beach Division for more than six years, Ambassador for four years and served as the Ambassador chair for years. Outside of work, Taylor enjoys traveling, weightlifting, walking her dog and spending time with her two sons.



The St. Augustine Wild Reserve is a non-profit corporation founded in 1995, focusing on the world's rapidly diminishing wildlife. Created as a rescue center for unwanted and abused exotic animals, this need has become evident due to the number of individuals who obtain an exotic animal or pet, only to realize that the animal's wild nature doesn't fit into their lifestyle as they expected. This is where the St. Augustine Wild Reserve comes into play. As Founder/CEO, Deborah Warrick has extensive knowledge of the animals themselves, their behavioral characteristics, care and handling of various exotic animals. It is her vision, knowledge, working experience and love of exotic animals that will transform the St. Augustine Wild Reserve into a self-sustaining reality that will provide the public educational exposure while providing a comfortable home for unwanted and abused endangered animals. We are currently raising funds to build a veterinary clinic on site, and a barn which will serve as a diet preparation area for our carnivores.

The St. Augustine Wild Reserve offers tours by appointment. Please call (904) 940-0664 for reservations or e-mail us at WildReserve@aol.com.

Tours are on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 2pm. We also offer a special VIP tour on Friday from noon until 1:30 for an additional fee. Guests will be allowed to visit our exotic animals up close (sorry, no hands-on) while we feed our big cats on the tour. It can get quite exciting!

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Chamber's Leadership St. Johns class completes program

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership St. Johns Class of 2019 completed its year-long program and graduated 24 participants from all sectors of industry, commerce and public service. The Class of 2020 will begin meeting in October 2019 and will complete the program in June 2020.

The leadership development program was started in 2001 and has more than 300 alumni including the former St. Johns County School District Superintendent of Schools and current Flagler College President Dr. Joseph G. Joyner; the current St. Johns County School District Superintendent of Schools Tim Forson; Flagler Health+ President and CEO Jason Barrett; local entrepreneur and St. Augustine Distillery cofounder CEO Phillip McDaniel; St. Johns County School District Board Representative and Vice-Chair Beverly Slough; and City of St. Augustine City Manager John Regan.

The Leadership St. Johns Program was established to educate, connect and encourage elite and emerging professionals as they strive to make a positive impact on the local economy and community.

Bob Porter, the Chamber's LSJ program director, said, "The program provides a way to recognize talented individuals who will benefit from the experience and who can utilize the opportunity to advance their organizational and personal professional goals. Additionally, strong connections established among class members are invaluable throughout one's career and beyond."

The Chamber will begin to accept applications for the Class of 2021 in mid-July 2020. The program runs from October through the following June. Class members need to be committed to meeting one day each month to experience a full day of policy briefings and onsite tours providing an in-depth overview of the challenges and opportunities faced by St. Johns County's many industries, government



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

The Leadership St. Johns Class celebrates its graduation at Aunt Kate's on the River Restaurant in Vilano Beach.

agencies and nonprofits.

Class members who successfully graduate from the program are accepted into the prestigious ranks of leadership alumni in St. Johns County and across Florida, and many LSJ graduates have been accepted into the state-wide Leadership Florida program. For more information, visit www.sjcchamber.com/leadership-st-johns.

The graduates of the Leadership St. Johns Class of 2019 are Lenny Byrd, Century 21 - St. Augustine Properties; Ashley Folladori, Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach; Francesco Manfredi, Flagler Health+ ; Lori Brandel, VyStar Credit Union; Nicole Pece, Betty Griffin Center;

Barry Fox, City of St. Augustine Police Department; Catherine Hutchins, St. Johns County School District; George Waters, Gwanda; Lex Taylor, Douglas and Hedstrom PA; Mark Allen, All Florida Safety Institute; Paige Durrett, Northrop Grumman; Greg Huntington, Advanced Disposal; Emily Harrison, St. Johns County School District; Wayne Gordon, Gordon Family Chiropractor; Ian Edmonson, Edmonson & Associates; Jack Hall, St. Johns River State College; Julia Turner, Ameris Bank; Elena Laguardia, Flagler Health+/Flagler Health Care Foundation; Dameon Church, Reunion Bank of North Florida; Jenny Harvey, United Way of St. Johns County; Michael Roberson, St. Johns

County Government; Kyle Gammon, Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CPA); Matt Cline, St. Johns Sheriff's Office, and Laura Stevenson Dumas, Flagler College.

Isabelle Renault, the Chamber's president/CEO and a graduate of Leadership St. Johns and Leadership Florida, suggested that involvement in LSJ can be a stepping stone to participating in non-profit and volunteer government advisory boards as well as potential involvement in future elected office.

"We also want our class members to consider using the skills honed through the LSJ experience to engage actively in the governing of St. Johns County," Renault said.

Chambers of Commerce partner to honor military personnel

On July 11, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce — PVB Division and the Jax Chamber Beaches Division honored local service members for their commitment to community service over and above their duties as active military personnel. Members and guests met for a luncheon at Sawgrass Beach Club in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The chambers collected donations for the Greater Jacksonville Area USO Council, and a special request was made for diapers, baby formula, canned vegetables, pasta and pet food.



ABOVE: Rear Admiral Gary Mayes

Photo by Susan Griffin

LEFT: Members and guests stand for the presentation of colors at the July 11 joint Chamber of Commerce meeting to honor military personnel.

Photo courtesy of the SJC Chamber



Photo by Susan Griffin

CHAMBER HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING FOR THE RESERVE AT NOCATEE

St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division held a ribbon cutting July 18 to celebrate The Reserve joining the Chamber. The community offers one-, two- and three-bedroom layouts with amenities including a clubhouse with fitness facility, beach entry pool and dog park with dog wash and bike care facility. The apartment's kitchens feature granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, modern cabinetry and even USB ports.

VISION EXPRESS CELEBRATES 10 YEARS WITH RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY



Photo by Susan Griffin

Vision Express at the Ponte Vedra Pointe Shopping Center celebrated its 10th anniversary with a ribbon cutting July 25. Members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce – Ponte Vedra Division and guests participated.


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ABOVE: Christine Swanbeck, Toni Boudreaux-Godwin and Sandy Kavanaugh gather during the Chamber's After Hours event at Ruth's Chris Steak House on July 24.

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LEFT: Cindy Bishop and Dr. Rob Karol

Photos by Susan Griffin

Chamber After Hours sells out

The SJC-Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chamber After Hours event was sold out July 24 at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The purpose was to network among members and guests and the host provided beverages and delicious bites.

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



OCTOBER 25, 2019 @ 8:30 AM

ST. JOHNS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2019

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2019 BRANDED BREAKFAST & AWARDS
RECOGNIZING BUSINESS LEADERS THAT MADE THEIR MARK

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: CRAIG DICKMAN, MANAGING DIRECTOR
TITLETOWN TECH**

Shell Hall, World Golf Village

1 World Golf Place

St. Augustine, FL

Doors Open @ 8:00

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\$45 for members

\$70 for non-members, contact Erin.Johnson@SJCChamber.com





Spavia owner Chris Stoll (second from left) mingles with guests at a recent Before Hours event held by the St. Johns County Chamber-PVB Division.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Chamber-PVB Division holds Before Hours event at Spavia

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce-Ponte Vedra Beach Division held its Before Hours on July 31 at Spavia Day Spa in Ponte Vedra.

Attendees had the chance to get to know a local business while networking

with fellow chamber members. These morning networking events provide a great way to start the workday with a little breakfast and conversation.

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

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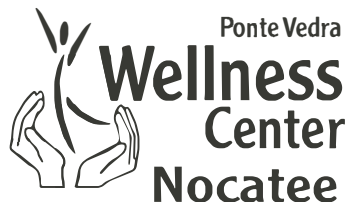
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The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosted a ribbon cutting for the opening of John Manis Jr.'s Brazilian Jiu Jitsu school, Aug. 5.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu school opens in Ponte Vedra Beach

By Daniela Toporek

Self-defense instructor, John Manis Jr., recently opened a martial arts school for Brazilian Jiu Jitsu in Ponte Vedra. The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosted a ribbon cutting Aug. 5, the first day of classes.

“I think it’s the most effective form of self defense,” he said. “I knew Ponte Vedra didn’t have jiu jitsu, I think we did a good job in finding the right area where there’s enough traffic.”

Manis started training in martial arts at the age of 4, when his mother enrolled him in classes for being so shy.

“That’s what sparked the passion and I haven’t stopped ever since,” he recalled.

Manis hopes to spark that same passion with his younger students and build their confidence, especially his two daughters, who he wants to prepare for the real world.

“As a father of two girls and as someone

who’s done martial arts his whole life, it was a goal of mine to give them that life skill of self defense, knowing how to protect themselves,” he explained.

Manis wants to build confidence, not only for his daughters, but for the youth in the Ponte Vedra community, who may just need time away from all the screens and technology or who might be insecure or bullied at school.

“I know a lot of kids need to get away from their computers and get a ‘digital detox,’ as I like to call it,” he joked. “But also, it’s a lot about making people better people. For example, if there’s someone new in school and they’re quiet or alone, as someone who does jiu jitsu, just go up to them, smile at them and ask them how they’re doing.”

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu classes are available for all ages.

For more information, visit www.pvbjj.com or call (917) 697-0932.



Sandy Kavanaugh talks with Gloria Dongara, incoming chair for the PVBD Board of Directors at the Chamber Before Hours event Aug. 7.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Chamber holds Before Hours networking breakfast at AAA

By Christine Rodenbaugh

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

an opportunity to make strong business connections while sharing conversation and breakfast.

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

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

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Chamber PVBD conducts ribbon cutting at Cryoskin

By Daniela Toporek

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division held a ribbon cutting Aug. 8 at Beaches Cryoskin, 5150 Palm Valley Road, Suite 208 in Ponte Vedra Beach. Chamber members and guests were served delectable edibles at the lunchtime ceremony.

Cryoskin uses non-invasive techniques used for slimming, cellulite reduction and toning that some clients compare to a cool massage. Beaches Cryoskin offers CryoToning Cellulite, CryoSlimming and CryoToning Face. Procedures take about 28 minutes. For information about Beaches Cryoskin, call (904) 862-1999.



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Chamber

Beaches Cryoskin celebrated a ribbon cutting Aug. 8 held by the Chamber of Commerce.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Sandy Kavanaugh (left) and Jim Moyer attended the Aug. 14 Chamber at Noon meeting to hear featured speaker Sara Frasca (right).

Chamber at Noon event features innovative speaker

By Daniela Toporek

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosted Chamber at Noon at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club on Aug. 14, to discuss harnessing innovation.

The event featured speaker, Sara Frasca, vice president of innovation enablement for Platypus Labs, a management consultant firm in Detroit, Michigan, that focuses on elevating companies of all sizes by unlocking the creative potential of its employees.

Some may also recognize Frasca as the owner of Ponte Vedra's Trasca & Co. Eatery.

Frasca discussed her position at Platypus Labs and her role in transforming creative ideas into powerful results.

"Most leaders agree that innovation is important in continuing to propel businesses forward, but don't know how to grasp or harness that innovation," Frasca

said. "Our team comes in and gives them (the employees) tools and techniques and we practice them and apply them to the business."

Frasca also mentioned that targeting innovation within companies rather than hiring new individuals leads to increased productivity and a better retention rates.

Frasca said she received positive feedback from attendees and told her that she "captured the attention of everyone in the room" and that the presentation was "very informative and right on the money."

"Every business can take responsible risks, challenge the status quo and find new paths," she said. "Creativity will harness and fuel the future."

For more information about the SJC Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division, visit www.sjchamber.com/ponte-vedra-beach-division.

For more information about Sara Frasca or Platypus Labs, visit www.platypuslabs.com or www.sarafrasca.com.

Chamber meeting focuses on energy

By Christine Rodenbaugh

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

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

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

"We are a technology company that

delivers energy," Silagy said.

FPL's dependence on oil to produce energy is almost nil. Instead, FPL continues to develop clean energy sources including solar, natural gas and nuclear energy products. Silagy said one option in the works is to install 40 acres of batteries to provide power, which removes emissions and requires no water, is efficient and enhances reliability.

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

FPL has invested \$4 billion in storm hardening.

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



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

LEFT: Christine Caven, Kristi Aiello and Ashley Szczukowski pose for a photo after the Chamber's EDC breakfast.

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

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DEC. 10	A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS w/ EUGE GROOVE, VINCENT INGALA & LINDSEY WEBSTER	MAR. 10	SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY & THE ASBURY JUKES
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The Aug. 21 ribbon cutting celebrated Rulon International's facility expansion, adding 27,000 square feet to the existing 85,000-square-foot plant.

Acoustical systems manufacturer celebrates expansion

Rulon International adds 27,000 square feet to St. Augustine facility

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting Aug. 21 at Rulon International to celebrate the firm's 27,000 square foot expansion at their 2000 Ring Way facility in St. Augustine.

Rulon International, in the business of manufacturing acoustical wood ceiling and wall systems for more than 30 years, launched a new corporate brand identity in the spring. Rulon contributes continued growth and success to an unrelenting commitment to excellence in both product quality and customer service. Since launching in 1985 in Souderton, Pennsylvania, Rulon has gone from working locally in Philadelphia to serving customers worldwide, while also moving the corporate office and manufacturing



Chamber members tour the firm's 27,000-square-foot expansion at their 2000 Ring Way facility in St. Augustine.

facility to St. Augustine, Florida in 2006. They have had the privilege of working on a variety of projects in all industries around North America and expanded into the global market.

"Over the past 30 years, we've built a strong reputation for excellence in both quality and innovation. Just as we have continued to grow and provide state-of-the-art products, incorporating new production technology and enhancement into the process, our brand is evolving too. This is an exciting time for Rulon, as we're rolling out a new brand along with the expansion of our facilities." Ken Fussner, national sales and marketing manager said.

Overall, the new Rulon brand identity embodies the elegance and beauty of their products along with the sleekness of the continued innovation into the process of wood wall and ceiling production. For information, visit www.rulonco.com.

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Photo by Susan Griffin

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

Chamber After Hours hits the Beach Club

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

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

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



The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting Aug. 24 for the grand opening of the Benton House.

Photo by Susan Griffin

Chamber hosts ribbon cutting for new assisted living facility

By Amber Lake

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

Representative Cyndi Stevension attended to welcome the facility to the community.

"In 1980, St. Johns County's population was calculated by the U.S. Census Bureau at 51,000 people," said Chamber president, Isabelle Renault. "The most recent census data from 2018 states that our population is grown to more than 250,000 people and there is no end in sight.

Not only is the county growing at an incredible pace, we believe that the fastest growing segment of that population in the next 15 years will be the senior population over the age of 75."

The facility offers not only assisted living, but memory care and an adult day program as well. The new location will be one of 23 across the Southeast United States and will be one of three facilities located in Florida. Staff conducted guided tours of the facility every 15 minutes during the open house.

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

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Jenny McK-eithen, Dr. Lexie Romero and Suzanne Green stop for a photo at the Sept. 11 Chamber Before Hours at Optimal You Brain Center.

Photos courtesy of Chamber of Commerce



Chamber holds Before Hours event

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosted Chamber Before Hours on Sept. 11 at Optimal You Brain Center at 151 Sawgrass Corners Drive, Unit 102, in Ponte Vedra Beach. The event was rescheduled from Sept. 4 because of Hurricane Dorian.

Optimal You Brain Center provides chiropractic, neuroplasticity and functional medicine care for pediatric, adult and elderly patients. The practice seeks to combine the passions of staff doctors to offer services designed to benefit a wide array of persons spanning all periods in life.

There was a drawing for a wellness package valued at \$450 which included an examination, one-hour massage and two adjustments. For information, visit www.oybcs.com.



Dr. Thomas and Dr. Lexie Romero, owners of Optimal You Brain Center in Ponte Vedra

Chamber Before Hours events are free to members. Nonmembers interested in future events may contact PVB Chamber office at (904) 285-2004.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Speaker and Florida Partnership Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau, Nadine Meinhardt (far left), stands with Sandy Kavanaugh (from left), Pam Kennedy and Lucia Miller.

Chamber at Noon looks at 2020 Census

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division hosted its Chamber at Noon at the Sawgrass Beach Club on Sept. 18, to discuss the 2020 Census.

Sponsored by Fields Auto Group and Setzer, Cochran, Soares and Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry, the Chamber discussed how state lawmakers are considering how to assure that citizens are accurately accounted for, explaining that

while the census is a federal responsibility, its result can shape many aspects of local communities.

Florida Partnership Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau, Nadine Meinhardt, spoke at the meeting to share updates and inform the Chamber of what's to come.

For more information or view upcoming events, visit www.sjcchamber.com/events.

Wellness Expo presented at Chamber event

Chamber After Hours celebrates Ponte Vedra Wellness Center 15-year anniversary

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosted a Florida Fall Festival and Wellness Expo on Sept. 26 to celebrate 15 years of operation at the Beach. The event, in cooperation with Center State Bank, was held outside their Ponte Vedra Beach office on Corridor Road. The event was in cooperation with the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce as part of its Chamber After Hours event series.

Raffle tickets were sold to benefit local nonprofit The HEAL Foundation, an organization dedicated to helping to enrich autistic lives. Prizes included overnight get-aways, gift certificates to local restaurants, fitness memberships, and wellness baskets, all donated by local businesses.

Practice owner Dr. Erika Hamer

said, "I really feel like this year is a milestone – this practice has grown so much over the past fifteen years and seen a variety of changes. From the beginning, I have always considered it to be a great honor for me to be able to positively impact the health of so many and contribute in a positive way to their wellbeing. This practice has always enjoyed a very significant retention rate of patients and now, after 15 years, I am treating the children of people I saw when I first opened. In fact, just recently, I adjusted the newborn baby of someone I began seeing when they were in middle school. They had been brought in by their parents, who were patients. I also treated the parents' parents — so in just one family I have been able to treat four generations — an incredible honor!"

Attendees also toured the Wellness Village, where over a dozen local community partners set up to discuss services and offer free samples or special offers.

For more information or to see upcoming events, visit www.sjcchamber.com/events.



Photo by Ed Johnson

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center celebrated its 15th anniversary with a Florida Fall Festival and Wellness Expo as part of a Chamber After Hours event. Pictured are Dr. Casey Means (from left), Ponte Vedra Wellness Center owner Dr. Erika Hamer, Janine Parker, Lisa Tromsdorff, Daniel Brauch,

2019 PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW



Visitors to the 2019 Ponte Vedra Auto Show check out vehicles on display during the event Sept. 22 at the Nocatee Event Field.

Ponte Vedra Auto Show field overflows with cars, spectators

17th annual event hosted by SJC Chamber of Commerce, presented by Fields Auto Group

On 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 collectible 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. 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 system. 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.



ABOVE: Winner of the Most Original award went to Jimbo Workman for his 1957 Grumman Delivery Kurbside sponsored by Sensible Recycling.



LEFT: Tanea Jenkins sponsored by Ponte Vedra Golf Carts won the “Spirit of Nocatee” Golf Cart award for her tricked out 2014 Golf Cart - Club Car Precedent.

Photos by Susan Griffin



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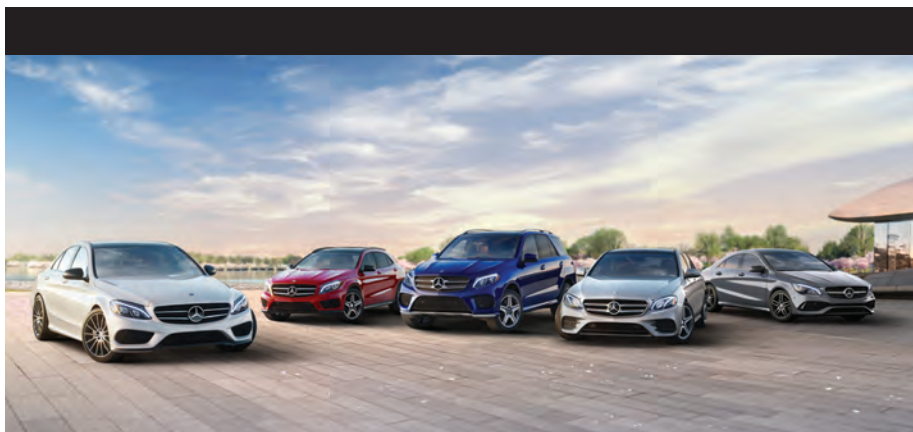
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St. Augustine's pirates treasure Pink Up the Pace

The St. Augustine Pirate and Treasure Museum and the St. Augustine Swashbucklers are giving a "heave ho" of support for the 11th annual Pink Up the Pace race runners.

On Saturday, Oct. 5, piratical characters will be in attendance at the Pirate Museum courtyard, manning the scuttlebutt (water station) while cheering on the runners as they pass by at approximately 8 a.m. In addition, all runners who visit the Museum with running bibs will receive free admission.

Noted as the largest 5K race in St. Augustine, Pink Up the Pace serves both women and men in an effort to raise money which helps fund imaging services for detecting breast cancer. The organiza-

tion aims to have a positive impact on the lives of those affected by this disease. All race proceeds go to assist underinsured and uninsured individuals navigate the financial challenges of early breast cancer detection and to educate the public.

The St. Augustine Swashbucklers formed in 2001 by noted Pirate Historian, Joe Osteen. The Crew of 90-plus members is a group whose purpose is charitable work, community involvement and pirate entertainment across the city. During the race, they will be at the Pirate Museum Courtyard, located at 12 S. Castillo Drive.

For more information, visit pinkupthepace.com, or call the St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure museum at (904) 819-1444 or email info@thepiratemuseum.com.

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Participants flaunt boas, tutus and flamboyant hats in every shade of pink throughout the 2018 Pink Up The Pace 5K Walk/Run. This year's race is set for Oct. 5 in downtown St. Augustine.

Photo courtesy of Pink Up The Pace

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How to better invest with help from artificial intelligence

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St. Johns Cultural Council names new executive director



Christina Parrish Stone

The Board of the St. Johns Cultural Council has named Christina Parrish Stone Executive Director of the Cultural Council effective Dec. 1.

“Christina Parrish Stone brings to the organization her vision as an arts advocate,” Board President Barbara McNeas said. “Her significant experience in placemaking, community organizing and development, successful fundraising and event management will provide continued growth for the SJCC and the arts culture and heritage mission. In addition, her financial and grants management skills will deliver the commitment of the Tourist Development dollars to ensure their effective use.”

Parrish Stone has served as executive director of Friends of Hemming Park for two years. While she said the move is somewhat bittersweet — she wasn’t looking to leave until a search firm engaged by the Cultural Council contacted her — she is delighted to join the Cultural Council.

“I can’t imagine a better place to celebrate and support arts, culture and heritage than St. Johns County, and I am honored to have the opportunity to do just that,” she said.

In her new role, she’ll work to spotlight areas of St. Johns that don’t receive the attention they deserve, for example the agrarian-centric area of Hastings, in addition to supporting the continued development of all of the county’s arts, culture and heritage industry.

“People tend to think about St. Augustine or Ponte Vedra when they think about St. Johns,” Parrish Stone said. “There are some rural areas, such as Hastings, that have a long history related to food and the farm-to-table movement. There are some great opportunities to celebrate that part of the County.”

For more information, call Andrew Witt at (904) 808-7330 or email awitt@historiccoastculture.com.

Edison community to celebrate grand opening Saturday

Toll Brothers, the nation’s leading builder of luxury homes, will celebrate the grand opening of its newest community, Edison, on Saturday, Oct. 5. Prospective home buyers are invited to visit the sales center and tour three designer-decorated model homes.

Edison is located in the new eTown community off I-295 at the State Road 9B and E-Town Parkway interchange.

Priced from the lower \$400,000s, the gated Edison community will offer 15 single-family, one- and two-story home designs ranging from 2,200 to 4,300 square feet. Homes will feature brand-new

EDISON continues on Page 34

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Financial Focus: Can 'AI' help you become a better investor?



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

For the past several years, artificial intelligence – or AI – has increasingly found a place in many walks of life. Almost certainly, you use some form of AI, whether it's time on social media, use of mobile banking, the navigation system you rely on for directions, or any of the many other AI-driven applications relevant to daily life. But AI has also become a significant part of the financial services industry. So, you might wonder if AI can help you become a better investor.

To begin with, what is AI? Essentially, it's the ability of a computer program or machine to think or learn. Using complex algorithms (a set of rules, or steps), computers and machines can mimic many of the thought processes of human beings.

But how can you use AI to invest? And should you?

In the financial services world, many companies use AI to select investments for specific funds. On an individual level, you can work with an AI-powered "robo-advisor" to build an investment portfolio. These robo-advisors are typically quite affordable, and they generally follow proven investment principles, such as

diversification, in making recommendations.

Yet, you are more than just the sum of your answers to a robo-advisor's online questionnaire. Investing is a highly personal matter, which means that, in the following areas, you may well benefit from some human intelligence – and empathy:

■ **Understanding of your risk tolerance:** A robo-advisor will ask you to identify your tolerance for risk – low, medium, high – and will plug in your answers when constructing a portfolio. But only a human financial advisor – someone who truly knows you, your personality, your family situation and your hopes for the future – can know how your sensitivity to risk might cause you to react to events such as sudden market declines. Armed with this knowledge, a financial advisor can talk through your options to help keep you on the road toward your goals.

■ **Answers to qualitative questions:** A robo-advisor can provide you with many key data points – rates of return, projections of future accumulations, etc. But so can a personal financial advisor, who can also go beyond the numbers to help you answer qualitative, subjective questions: How can I save for college for my children and my own retirement at the same time? If I change jobs, should I leave my

JACOBSON continues on Page 35

Local Realtor makes Florida 500 list

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently announced Founder and Chairman Linda Sherrer has been named to the Florida 500 list by Florida Trend magazine. The annual list identifies the most influential business executives in different economic sectors throughout Florida.

"Linda is such an inspiration and truly deserving of this recognition," said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty President and CEO Christy Budnick. "My mother has an incredible work ethic and leads with integrity as well as her heart. I admire her vision, leadership style and strategic insight, which have inspired our company's success."

Listed in the real estate category, Sherrer was recognized for launching the company (formerly known as Prudential Network Realty) in 1988 and guiding it from a one-person operation into a dynamic real estate firm, achieving \$1.2 billion in closed sales in 2018. The company has more than 400 agents, nine branch offices, a corporate relocation division, a new home and condominium sales division, a property management division, a title services company, and a mortgage partner. Berkshire Hathaway HomeSer-



Linda Sherrer

vices Florida Network Realty ranks as one of the Top 25 companies in the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network.

In 2018, Sherrer turned over the day-to-day operations to Budnick. Sherrer remains active in the company, focusing on the Builder Services Division as well as corporate business/relocation and corporate philanthropy.

Florida Trend's editorial department compiles the Florida 500 list and selects honorees who have demonstrated real influence in their professions and in their communities. Nominees are asked to complete a questionnaire as part of the application process. When asked to share her best advice, Sherrer said, "Get the very best education you can because no one can ever take your education away from you. Don't give in to burning bridges. Situations are constantly changing, and one day you may find this person or group an ally."

Visit www.FloridaNetworkRealty.com or call (904) 296-6400 for more information.

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- 9. Ball on a string
- 13. Conversation starter
- 14. "Platoon" setting
- 15. "Four" prefix
- 16. Macaroni shape
- 17. Dunk value
- 18. *"The Dark Knight" star
- 19. *Marion Crane stops at a motel
- 21. *Eccentric scientist teleports himself
- 23. Sonny and Cher, e.g.
- 24. *What "The Swarm" attackers do
- 25. Hot tub feature
- 28. Think, archaic
- 30. Kentucky Derby sound
- 34. *"American Psycho" weapon, pl.
- 36. Andy's radio partner
- 38. Dished out

- 40. Drunkard
- 41. Type of turn, pl.
- 43. Spare in a trunk
- 44. Pore in a leaf
- 46. Straight out of bottle, as in whiskey
- 47. Port of Yemen
- 48. Angry growl
- 50. Whiskey grain, pl.
- 52. Is in Paris
- 53. "What a ____!"
- 55. Car nut
- 57. *Chris Washington meets his girlfriend's family
- 60. *Girl bullied at school
- 63. Type of renewable energy
- 64. Caviar
- 66. Abstains from food
- 68. Opposite of binary
- 69. Barley bristle
- 70. Web mag
- 71. Department store department
- 72. *Sematary resident
- 73. Saw again
- 11. Pretentiously artistic
- 12. Morse Code dash
- 15. Like Murder Mystery Party
- 20. Pertaining to hours
- 22. Type of farm house
- 24. Two for the price of one deals
- 25. *It terrorized Amity
- 26. Highway departures
- 27. Part of mortise joint
- 29. *Boy brings grief to adoptive parents, with The
- 31. 9th letter of Greek alphabet
- 32. Move like on ice
- 33. *Jack Torrance's catchphrase "____ Johnny!"
- 35. "Brave New World" drug
- 37. Don't go
- 39. Fender-bender damage
- 42. Funerary art form
- 45. Weapon storage
- 49. Romanian money
- 51. The Beach Boys' "____ Girl"
- 54. Seatbelt, e.g.
- 56. Feed in a meadow
- 57. *"____ Girl"
- 58. Panache
- 59. Before feathers
- 60. One tenth of a dime
- 61. a.k.a. The Islamic State
- 62. Tallest volcano in Europe
- 63. Math class total
- 65. Be in the red
- 67. Do needlework

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Edison

Continued from 32

exterior architecture and an array of luxury appointments including gourmet kitchens, spacious living areas, and private master bedroom suites, along with unique architectural details and hundreds of personalization options. Additionally, the homes will offer Smart Home features including Wi-Fi ready front door locks, garage door openers, and thermostats. Many of the

community's home sites feature water and/or preserve views.

The Anna Maria, Anastasia Elite and Abigail model homes will be available for prospective buyers to tour.

"We've designed Edison to appeal to home buyers who desire all-new architecture, open floor plans, and Northeast Florida's fantastic outdoor lifestyle," said Steven Merten, president of Toll Brothers' Northeast Florida division. "We're excited to welcome everyone to the community and our model homes on Oct. 5."

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Open House dates: November 5 and January 14.

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Jacobson

Continued from 33

401(k) in my former employer's plan, move it to my new employer's plan or roll it over to an IRA? What's the best way to guard my financial independence if I ever need some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home?

■ **Guidance for the "big picture:"**

Your investments are important, but they're also connected to other areas of your life, including your taxes and your estate plans. And while a financial advisor might not provide you with tax or legal advice, he or she may be able to connect you to other, appropriate professionals, and work with them to help you put together your "big picture." That's not something a typical robo-advisor is equipped to do.

Artificial intelligence will support many of your activities throughout your life. But when it comes to investing, a personal touch may never become obsolete.

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.

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Groove-heavy All-Star quartet to perform at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

New Orleans-based Mad Skillet to take stage Oct. 5

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall welcomes John Medeski's Mad Skillet on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Mad Skillet was born of a late night show in New Orleans during Jazz Fest 2015. It came out kicking and screaming, laughing and wailing, laying down a deep New Orleans groove steeped in jazz, blues, psychedelic rock and R&B.

Band members are lead keyboardist John Medeski (Medeski Martin and Wood, The Word), Grammy nominated guitarist/bandleader Will Bernard (Medicine Hat, Party Hats), New Orleans native sousaphone player Kirk Joseph (Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Backyard Groove), and drummer Terence Higgins (Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Ani DiFranco), also a New Orleans native.



Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Medeski and Bernard's yearly quest to play together during Jazz Fest found a special chemistry with the addition of Joseph and Higgins. The eclectic, far-reaching backgrounds of Medeski and Bernard alongside this legendary NOLA rhythm section generated what Medeski calls "a vast musical universe with limitless potential."

"Terence and Kirk are a great rhythm section. Classic," Medeski said. "They're overflowing with tradition, yet always ready to go any direction the music calls for. It's rare to find musicians with such deep roots who are also open to experimentation. I've always wanted an excuse to play with them, so when Will mentioned using Kirk on the gig, I thought it

was the perfect time to bring Terence in too. And Will Bernard ... well, something happens to Will when he's in The Crescent City. It's like superman coming out of the phone booth!"

John Medeski is best known for his buoyant, organ-centric approach to jazz as a part of trailblazing trio Medeski Martin and Wood, he also collaborates often with John Zorn and John Scofield and plays in lauded super-groups The Word, Spectrum Road, and Phil & Friends and, in 2013, he released an introspective solo piano album on Okeh/Sony Records called, A Different Time.

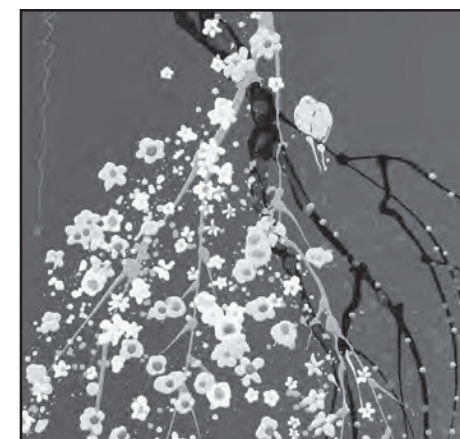
Tickets are available at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and The Amp box offices and ticketmaster.com.

Local gallery welcomes artist's rich, vibrant style

Simon Bull exhibition to open at Cutter & Cutter

Cutter & Cutter Fine Art presents a major art exhibition created by a dear and long-time friend of the gallery, Simon Bull. The exhibition opening and artist's reception will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Gallery, 333 Village Main Street in Ponte Vedra Beach. On Saturday, Oct. 12, Bull will be painting in the gallery. To RSVP for the reception, call (904) 810-0460.

Throughout the gallery's 20-plus years of selling fine art to collectors, staff and management have had the joy of bonding with many of the world's greatest living creative geniuses. Like many creative minds, Bull has experimented with many styles and techniques over the years and what has emerged can be seen in this extraordinary exhibition. Throughout the years, collectors have been attracted to Bull's unforgettable brilliant florals, his playful art candy works, as well as his sweeping landscapes. The Cutter family along with the entire staff will welcome, with open arms, Simon Bull and his collectors — past, present and future.



Photos courtesy of Cutter & Cutter

Simon Bull's art exhibition will be on display at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Gallery in Ponte Vedra Beach. A grand opening of his showing will be Friday, Oct. 11.

Friends of the Library to open Speaker Series Oct. 15

The Friends of the Library, Ponte Vedra Beach, a support group of the Ponte Vedra Beach Library, will present its first program in its new Speaker Series on Oct. 15.

The first Speaker Series will feature Dorothy Fletcher, a teacher, author and poet. When Fletcher retired from teaching in Jacksonville after 35 years, she found that she finally had time to discover all the

wonders of her hometown.

Her book "Remembering Jacksonville: By the Wayside" is a look at Jacksonville's mid-century days. "Growing up Jacksonville" continues to explore the 50s and the 60s. "Lost Restaurants of Jacksonville" conjured up scrumptious memories of great restaurants that are no more. Her next book, "Historic Jacksonville Theater

Palaces, Drive-Ins and Movie Houses," tells about Jacksonville's most iconic performance venues. Fletcher's most recent book, "Jacksonville on Wheels" looks at the automotive history of the city.

The program will be Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, The program is free and open to the public.

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Nease's Kenneth Ponzetti (28) stops a Mandarin runner at the goal line during last Friday's game. The Panthers (1-4, 0-2 District 1-8A) lost 42-3 to the host Mustangs, who won the Class 8A state title last season. Nease plays visiting Fletcher at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4. Ponte Vedra High School routed host Matanzas 35-0 last Friday. The Sharks (5-0) will try to remain undefeated against visiting Bartram Trail at 7 p.m. Friday.

Photo by Chris Norton



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